



# AGAWAM

## Advertiser News

# 60¢

Volume XX Number 37

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

September 18, 1997



**ATTORNEY GENERAL SCOTT HARSHBARGER**, now a candidate for governor, made a campaign stop at the Agawam Senior Center last Friday. Pictured with the AG were State Rep. Daniel Keenan, Louis DeChristopher, and Charles Heyl. **RELATED PHOTOS ON PAGE 7.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Campaign Trail Brings Scott Harshbarger To Ag. Senior Center

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Both victor and vanquished in last year's state representative race agree on at least one thing.

State Representative Dan Keenan and Town Council candidate Robert Magovern both think Attorney General Scott Harshbarger is the Democrats' best candidate for governor in 1998.

Accompanying Harshbarger on a campaign stop at the Senior Center last week, Keenan said the Attorney General had his support from the beginning, long before family scandals forced U.S. Representative Joseph P. Kennedy to abandon his gubernatorial ambitions.

"Scott Harshbarger has what's necessary to be a very solid governor for Massachusetts," Keenan said. "He's done an outstanding job as Attorney General. He doesn't always make all of the people happy with his decisions, but he's willing to stand up for what he believes is right. He's willing to listen to other points of view and still follow through on his decisions."

A self-described "staunch Republican" with close ties to Governor Paul Cellucci's camp, Magovern doesn't intend to vote for Harshbarger, but he does think the Attorney General represents the best in the field of possible Democratic candidates.

**SEE HARSHBARGER - Page 2...**

## Elderly, School Dept. Combining Talents On WWII Era Events

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Pearl Harbor. Gas rationing. Guadalcanal. Victory gardens.

Words and images lifted from history book accounts of World War II come alive for Agawam High School students through the songs and stories of the people who lived those experiences.

At last week's School Committee meeting, School Superintendent Frank Ameruso announced the first intergenerational program as promised in his four-tile mosaic of his vision of the school system in the year 2000.

A cooperative effort spearheaded by Senior Center Director Richard Mundo and AHS Dean of Students Bernadette Conte, Agawam Intergenerational Week will be celebrated the week of November 17th-21st with a canteen hop, a choral concert, and stories of life on the homefront and on the battlefield.

When America entered the war in 1941, these senior citizens were either in high school or recent graduates. Now they are the "vintage citizens" who will be returning to AHS classrooms to tell their stories.

**"...A Very Memorable Week"**

"We need to appreciate the gold we have here in our vintage citizens," Mrs. Conte said. "This is going to be a very memorable week."

With "success written all over this project," Mundo has arranged for a videotographer to

**SEE SWING ERA - Page 6...**

## Officials Gather To Address Teen Violence



**A GROUP OF OFFICIALS** from Agawam is in the process of helping the Agawam Police Dept. solve the problems related to teen violence. **SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.** From left - Gary Nardi, APD; Frank Ameruso, superintendent of schools; James Frantz, program coordinator; Robert D. Campbell, chief of police; Christopher C. Johnson, mayor; Lonnie Duke, program assistant; and Kevin Littlefield, Junior High principal. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



**HARSHBARGER - from Page 1...**

"I want to see the best in both parties in the race for governor," Magovern said. "I think Paul Cellucci is the best on the Republican side, and I think Harshbarger is the best candidate the Democrats have to offer in the election."

Magovern said it was in everyone's best interest to see the best candidates from both sides of the political aisle.

Speaking to a crowd of about 60 people (mostly senior citizens), Harshbarger touched on topics ranging from mail and telemarketing fraud to the quality of life issues surrounding the long-term health care challenges faced by the elderly and their families.

Harshbarger said his office will issue a report in cooperation with the governor next month on how to finance the long-term care currently funded by Medicaid.

Recounting his own struggle through a bureaucratic maze trying to get appropriate care for his mother 10 years ago, Harshbarger said he became convinced the system had to be overhauled.

"I was a graduate of Harvard and Harvard Law School, and I couldn't understand if the paper-

work my mother received from Medicare was a bill, a voucher, or what," Harshbarger said.

Harshbarger said he favored combining some kind of private insurance payment with the public payment so that people will be able to retain more of their assets and still be eligible for state aid. Harshbarger also proposed helping people avoid the necessity of going into expensive, long-term care in nursing homes through the use of home health care programs.

**Harshbarger Offers Warning To Seniors...**

Turning from health care issues, Harshbarger warned the elderly against falling victim to a \$40 billion-a-year criminal enterprise targeting senior citizens. Harshbarger said preventing mail and telemarketing fraud has been identified as a national priority by the AARP.

"We know older Americans are being targeted for telemarketing fraud, and we've got to start treating this as a crime, not a nuisance," Harshbarger said.

In addition to urging seniors to call his office and local law enforcement if they have been victimized or solicited by scam artists, Harshbarger urged the seniors not to buy from telemarketers at all.

"Anything you can get from a telemarketer, you can get from a local business where they will take

care of you and you can hold them accountable," Harshbarger said.

A 30-year activist in state Democratic party politics, resident Rudy Altobelli has thrown his support to Harshbarger in the wake of Kennedy's withdrawal from the race.

Altobelli said he had been leaning toward supporting Harshbarger, but his long-term association with Kennedy family campaigns led him to take on the job of coordinating the congressman's Western Mass campaign.

With Kennedy out of the running, Altobelli said, "I'll definitely be working for Harshbarger. I respect his integrity as a guy who speaks his mind on the issues."

Praising Harshbarger for his emphasis on elderly and consumer affairs issues, Hampden County Commissioner Abe Kasparian has also signed on to work on Harshbarger's campaign.

Harshbarger praised Keenan for having the political courage to support his campaign "long before it seemed I'd be the leading candidate" (despite the predictions of polls and of pundits favoring Kennedy in the race).

Harshbarger said he respected Keenan as an effective and aggressive advocate of the best interests of his district, even though they don't always agree on the issues.

## Applications Are Available For Citizen's Police Academy

Town residents or business owners interested in attending the Police Department's fourth Citizen's Police Academy can pick up an application at the Police Station on Springfield Street.

The academy will be held on 10 consecutive Tuesdays from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., in the Police Station's Community Room beginning September 30th.

The class is limited to 15 participants, and the application deadline is September 23rd.

## Agawam To Receive \$93,978 From Mass. State Lottery Commission

The Massachusetts Lottery will return an additional \$20 million to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth thanks to a better than expected performance in FY 97. Agawam is scheduled to receive \$93,978.

The Fiscal 1997 deficiency budget was recently signed into law and as a result cities and towns across the state are getting an extra check from the lottery.

"This additional \$20 million represents what I like to call the 'efficiency dividend'," State Treasurer Joe Malone said. "By being the most efficient lottery in the country, we have made additional monies available to the people of Massachusetts that otherwise would have been spent on administrative overhead at the Lottery."

Administrative costs as a percentage of sales were 2.2 percent for fiscal year 1997—the lowest of any lottery in the nation. The extra funds bring direct local aid from the Lottery to a record one-year total of \$504 million for the cities and towns of Massachusetts. That is a 12.2 percent increase from fiscal year 1996 and a remarkable 39.3 percent increase since fiscal year 1990.

Unrestricted direct local aid allows cities and towns to fund local public education, public safety, and public works projects.

In addition to the direct local aid funds, the Lottery also contributed \$86 million to support the arts at the state and local level and approximately \$100 million to indirectly assist cities and towns. The nearly \$700 million in revenues from the Lottery exceeded all projections.

*Best local news...*



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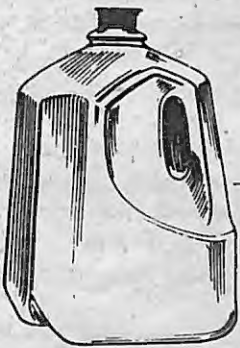
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## Letters To The Editor

### Councilor Bitzas Seeks Support On Primary Day In Agawam

To The Editor:

To The People Of Agawam:

When I was elected to the Agawam Town Council eight years ago, I hoped to bring about a positive change for the better in Agawam politics.

I tried to help put Agawam on the right road to prosperity. Even though it has been very difficult at times, I am very proud of all the things I was able to accomplish and I have great faith in my goals for the future of Agawam.

Unfortunately, during the last few years some of our meetings have at times gotten out of control and the citizens are correct in wanting some changes. I believe and I hope that the changes that they will make will be for the better, not for the worse. I hope the people of Agawam do not paint the whole council with the same brush.

We are fortunate to have our meetings broadcasted on Monday nights so that the people can see our actions and also to have them reported in the newspapers so that they are able to make a fair judgement about our accomplishments. As your councilor, I have never refused any member of the administration or any citizen the right to speak on any of the issues concerning our town business or our operational budget. When the time comes to conduct town business, political games should be left outside.

I never boycotted a regular meeting or executive session meeting. Nor have I ever purposely left a meeting or encouraged other members to do so in order to force a cancellation of a meeting because of the lack of a six-member quorum. I have tried many times to dignify our council meetings. Sometimes I was successful, but sometimes I was not. I have sent letters to the last two council presidents, urging them to do something that would enforce the rules and bring dignity, respect, and professionalism to our meetings.

I always listen to the concerns of the people and try to do my best to serve you better. Sometimes we may disagree respectfully with one another on various issues, but this should not pull us apart. It is impossible in a democratic system to agree with one another on every single issue. I believe on a whole I have done a good job serving you and our town to the best of my ability.

I heard the message clearly and honored the wishes of the people to have a referendum question on Berkshire Power. On the council floor, I spoke in favor of it and I voted in favor. We gave the people the right to freely express their opinion. Perhaps we should have had it on the ballot the first time. I believe this will bring the people together, unifying us. United we can accomplish many things; divided it is very difficult to get anything done.

I ask for your vote again to continue making Agawam a better place to live and raise a family. Please remember, Primary Day is Tuesday, October 7th. I would appreciate your vote.

Sincerely,  
George Bitzas  
Agawam Town Councilor

### Pietroniro Committee Offers Thanks For Local Support

To The Editor:

The Michael Pietroniro Fundraising Committee and the Pietroniro family wish to extend heartfelt thanks to the employees of MML Investors Services, Inc. of Springfield.

On Saturday, September 6th, at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills, they sponsored a very successful benefit car wash. Also working very hard along with the MML staff were the parents and players of the Sacred Heart Girls' All Stars softball team a very special thanks for the hard work selling tickets and washing a lot of cars!

Carol, Vinnie, and Michael Pietroniro are soon to embark on a medical journey to Paris, France — a trip they are making in order to try a new drug that might finally be capable of relieving or stopping the seizures Michael suffers every day.

Dr. Gregory Holmes of Boston Children's Hospital (Michael's primary neurologist) recently returned from a one-year sabbatical in Paris. He was there continuing his extensive research on epilepsy. He worked closely with doctors at St. Vincent DePaul Hospital and became aware of a new experimental drug that had already proved helpful to many patients in Europe.

Upon his return, seeing no improvement in Michael's seizures, he highly recommended the Pietroniros make this trip and he helped the Pietroniros contact the doctors in Paris.

Due to the incredible thoughtfulness of MML Investors, an anonymous donor, and the Epilepsy Association of Massachusetts, the Pietroniros will travel to Paris in late October or early November.

Again, to all those who made this trip possible, thank you.

Michael Pietroniro Fundraising Committee  
and the Pietroniro family

### Kasparian Urges Melconian & Keenan To Support Veto

To The Editor:

Dear Senator Linda Melconian &  
Representative Daniel Keenan:

The Hampden County Task Force with the Chairman of the Hampden County Retirement System and Retirement Counsel met on August 27, 1997 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hall of Justice, 50 State Street, Springfield, MA.

It was the consensus of the group that we urgently request your support in sustaining the Governor's veto of House Bill No. 4588, Sections 19 and 20. There would be a financially devastating effect on the member units of the Hampden County Retirement System.

Please refer to the latest Coopers and Lybrand study from Dan Sherman, Human Resources Advisor, dated July 24, 1997. The illustrations of the costs, based on current legislation, would have a tremendous negative financial impact on the taxpayers of the involved member units. Whereas, it was the intent of the Commonwealth to save money by eliminating this layer of government.

In fact, the reverse is true based on the current legislation. Therefore, we urge the Senate delegation to sustain the Governor's veto as it pertains to Sections 19 and 20. Furthermore, no City or Town should suffer this negative financial consequence, either directly or indirectly, by reduction in local aid (Cherry Sheet). Whereas, it is the intent of the Commonwealth to assume assets of Hampden County, then it is incumbent upon them to assume liabilities.

The Hampden County Task Force agreed that we draft a bill enabling legislation that would

relieve the taxpayers of the Cities and Towns in Hampden County of any financial burden resulting from the abolishment of County government and specifically dealing with the Retirement System itself.

On behalf of the taxpayers of Hampden County, we thank you for your consideration as Chairman of the Hampden County Task Force.

Very truly yours,  
Abraham Kasparian, Chairman  
Hampden County Task Force  
HAMPDEN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### F. Hills Resident Writes To Melconian Regarding Problem

To The Editor:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Senator Melconian written by a concerned neighbor. It is self-explanatory!!

Those of us on the east side of South Westfield St. are afraid to go to our mailboxes. My husband came close to being "run over" by a dump truck just recently.

When the rains come or the snow makes the street slippery, the traffic, which has increased since Route 57, does not hesitate or slow down seeing a person on the side of the road.

The speed limit is too excessive at this location as well. Knowing our letters are of "no avail," I just had to show my appreciation to Lil Bryant for bringing this to someone's attention.

Charlotte Haynes  
Feeding Hills

P.S. By the way, we are both physically under a doctor's care for emphysema and coronary heart failure.

To The Editor:

To Senator Melconian:

I am writing to you for help with a problem.

There are four homes that have elderly people living in them: Rte. 187 southerly toward Suffield. So. Westfield St. 397 thru 437. Their mailboxes are on the opposite side of the street. The traffic is terrible, and they have a hard time getting across the street and back. Someone will get hurt badly one of these days

SEE LETTERS - Page 5...

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Monday, September 22nd  
First fall meeting of the  
Agawam/Feeding Hills Chapter of AARP  
At Agawam Senior Center  
1:00 p.m.

Monday, September 22nd  
Agawam Women's Club meeting  
At Captain Leonard House, Main St., Agawam  
6:30 p.m.  
Call 786-1473 or 786-3091 for more information

Monday, September 22nd  
"Back-To-School Night" for parents at  
Agawam Junior High School  
6:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
(Parents to meet in school auditorium at 6:30 p.m.)

Thursday, September 25th  
Meeting of ASGA  
(Agawam Senior Games Athletes)  
At Agawam Senior Center  
10:00 a.m.

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THE AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS (U.S.P.S. 001-170) is published weekly for \$24.00 per year by PAG Publications, Inc., 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0263. Second class postage is paid at F.H., MA 01030 & at associated offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Agawam Advertiser News, P.O. Box 263, F.H., MA 01030-0263.



LETTERS - from Page 4...

I talked to the Postmaster about changing their boxes to the other side of the street so they wouldn't have to cross over. He said he would have to change the whole route and unless they could get a doctor's certificate stating that they were disabled, there was nothing he could do.

They have boxes on both sides of So. Westfield from Shoemaker to Feeding Hills Center.

I hope you will consider this a legitimate problem and see what you can do before someone gets hurt.

Sincerely,  
Lil Bryant  
Feeding Hills

## UMass Women's Soccer Coach Thanks Town Of Agawam

### To The Editor:

Just a short note to express our great appreciation to the town of Agawam, the Agawam Soccer Association, Agawam High School, and all those who were instrumental in putting on the UMass vs. Fairfield University Collegiate Women's Soccer game on August 30th during the "Riverside Classic."

Each time that we have played in your town, we've been so impressed with the hospitality and friendliness of the people as well as the promotion and organization of the event.

It's quite meaningful for our student/athletes to play off-campus and be received in such a manner. We feel that once a year, Agawam becomes our "home."

We hope to be able to return next fall (Arizona State has expressed an interest) and again enjoy the friendly atmosphere of our "home away from home, Agawam."

Best regards,  
Jim Rudy  
Head Coach - Women's Soccer  
University of Massachusetts

## Agawam Resident Believes Russo Is A Good Candidate

### To The Editor:

I have followed Agawam politics over the years, and there is one candidate whom I believe is worthy of consideration: Mr. Louis Russo.

Mr. Russo has consistently shown that he is a champion of the people.

Mr. Russo has worked tirelessly on behalf of many local organizations: UNICO, the Boy Scouts, the American Legion, the Agawam Historical Association, the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, and the Senior Games Athletes, to name a few.

He has served on numerous Town boards, and during his service on the Town Council, he proved himself to be a strong supporter of the seniors, veterans, and schoolchildren of Agawam.

Mr. Russo has always responded to those in need and done his utmost to see that their local government works for them, not against them. I strongly urge my fellow citizens to endorse Mr. Russo and put his talents to work for the betterment of Agawam.

Thank You,  
Ernestine Book  
Agawam

## Symanski Family Thanks Town Policemen And Firemen

### To The Editor:

To all the members of the Agawam Police Force and Agawam Fire Department, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for responding so wonderfully to my calls for help for my husband.

On every occasion, you all were kind, considerate, and compassionate.

Again, my thanks, and my God bless you all.  
Stella M. Symanski & Family  
Agawam

## Agawam Native Seeks Info. On Possible Relatives In Town

### To The Editor:

I was born in this great city and shortly after I was in first grade, my family moved to Florida. About a year after we moved, my father and mother were killed in an automobile accident, and ever since then I was raised in foster homes and state centers. I am now in prison for drugs.

I am writing this letter in the hopes of contacting any relatives that I might still have that are living in this town. Or if anybody that might have known my family could tell me where my relatives might be living so I can get in contact with them.

I would appreciate it if you could please print this letter in your great newspaper so that my relatives could read it and write to me. But even if no one remembers my family or knows of my relatives, I would still be happy to answer all replies and to share a smile from time-to-time.

I thank you for your time and may God bless you and yours.

Sincerely,  
Robert Sym, No. 559592; HI-107L  
Taylor Correctional Institution  
P.O. Box 1728  
Perry, FL 32348

## School Committee To Meet Sept. 23rd

The Agawam School Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, September 23rd, at 7:30 p.m., in the Agawam Middle School Auditorium, 68 Main Street, Agawam.

Old Business to be discussed includes selecting a Massachusetts Association of School Committees voting delegate and alternate.

*Due to the hectic nature of this political season, we urge you to bring in their press releases, ads, etc., on Mondays.*



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**SWING ERA - from Page 1...**

record the events of the week with the intent of bringing Agawam's model to state and national attention.

The women members of the Council on Aging said they would be talking about food and gas rationing, knitting sweaters and socks for the GI's, and seeing busloads of German POW's from Westover Air Base on the way to work detail.

The men will be talking of their harrowing experiences leaving high school behind and growing up quickly on battlefields far from home.

Known affectionately as Agawam's "Music Man," retired AHS Band Director Darcy Davis is working with music teachers on two events sure to be among the highlights of the week.

On Wednesday, November 19th, Davis said there will be a community sing-along at the High School featuring the sad songs, happy songs, and crazy songs that defined the 1940's.

Davis said anyone who loves to sing the songs of the swing era is welcome to join the chorus.

On Friday, November 21st, Davis and current Band Director Tammy Watson will host a canteen hop at the High School. The dance will feature the AHS Jazz Band playing music from the 1940's.



**FORMER AGAWAM HIGH BAND DIRECTOR** Darcy Davis is working on two music events related to the sights and sounds of the World War II era.

Resident Charles Heyl and his wife, Virginia, will be among the seniors visiting AHS classrooms to recount their wartime experiences.

Heyl, a high school senior in 1941, said he remembered "sitting in the auditorium and hearing the principal tell us we'd been attacked," Heyl was drafted in April 1943. Nine months later, he found himself in a place he'd barely heard of: Oahu, Hawaii.

**What It Was Really Like**

"I want to share some feelings about being thrown into the war and what it was really like," Heyl said.

Mrs. Heyl was a single girl living at the YWCA during the war years. She remembers gas rationing and some of the ways people coped with the scarcity of fuel for civilians. For one thing, wedding were held after church services when friends and family were already gathered together. Mrs. Heyl said.

"This is a great opportunity to involve our seniors in the education of our youth," Mundo said. "It's important for the students to understand what life was like."

Everyone participating in the program will receive a three-quarter-inch commemorative pin featuring "I want you," Uncle Sam and the inscription, Agawam Intergenerational Week 1997.

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# Agawam Police Chief Seeking Help With Teen Violence Issue

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Police Chief Robert D. Campbell is looking for a few good men, and women, and teens, to form a partnership with the Police Department to help solve problems related to teen violence.

Nearly 10 years after leaving the Police Department, Agawam's first DARE officer, James Franz, is coordinating another community policing project aimed at making life a little safer Agawam teens.

A consultant for the Adelphi University-based Superteams, Franz, a former Agawam detective, has been hired to put together and train four problem-solving teams focused on proposing long-term solutions to issues of teen violence, threats, and intimidation. The teams will be made up of teens, parents, teachers, senior citizens, and business owners.

Although the Police/Community Partnership Program has been federally funded for a year, Campbell said the idea is to develop programs that will continue in the future.

"I think this is going to be a partnership program the likes of which Agawam has not seen," Campbell said.

Last week, Campbell invited a steering committee representing Town Hall, the School Department, and the Senior Center to assist Franz, and his colleague Lonnie Duke, in identifying possible candidates for the problem solving teams. The committee also tackled the problem of developing recruitment strategies that will be successful in tapping into the widest possible cross-section of the community.

"Getting the right people around the table is essential," Duke said. "We need the perspective of students, parents, city officials, and the people who have the statutory responsibility for public safety."

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said the Junior High and High School principals would be able to direct the interview team to the schools' most active students who may be less likely to be involved in teen violence. But, Johnson said the owners of local businesses where teens congregate could "steer you to the right kids so you're going to get a different perspective than the kids directed to you by the School Department."

**Canvassing The Town For Volunteers...**

In the upcoming weeks, Franz's team will be canvassing the town for volunteers willing to be surveyed for their perspective on the best ways to solve the problem of teen violence and what can be done to make senior citizens feel safer at home and out in the community.

In addition to setting up information tables at the open houses at the High School and at the Junior High School, the committee agreed to approach local businesses with large numbers of employees to recruit people willing to be interviewed for the survey.

The results of the survey will serve as the basis for discussion when the four problem-solving teams are formed.

During a three-day training seminar, team members will identify particular areas of concern and develop action plans to produce ongoing programs similar to the initiatives launched by the

Adelphi Committees at the four elementary schools and the High School.

Adelphi Committees are still active in the town's schools and some of the programs begun by the original Adelphi team are still in place, like the Peer Leadership Group at the High School and the annual Read Aloud Month at Robinson Park School.

An alumnus of the Adelphi training offered in the mid-1980's to teams of parents, teachers, and principals from each elementary school and a community team of School Department officials and town officials, Johnson said, "I'm optimistic about this. I'm looking forward to the community coming up with some action plans we can put to use."

Funded by a \$48,000 U.S. Justice Department grant under the Community Oriented Problem-Solving (COPS) Project, the program seeks to reduce and eliminate violent confrontations resulting from rivalries between Agawam teens and teens from other towns.

Also under discussion will be ways to reduce senior citizens' fears of youth crime and increase seniors' perception of living in a community where they can safely leave their homes to go for a walk or go out shopping.

Campbell said, "We are committed to community policing, not through programs, but by instilling a sense of partnership with the community. We have gone from being a very re-active department to a very pro-active department in terms of directing the resources of the department. With this new grant, we will become co-active, encouraging people outside the department to help us solve problems."

**Major Issue For Elders**

Senior Center Director Richard Mundo said fear of scam artists, fear of financial exploitation, and fear of youth crime, regardless of how accurate the perception of danger may be, is a major issue for many elders.

Mundo suggested more intergenerational programs between the Senior Center and the schools as one way to break down the stereotypes that can lead the elderly to view a teen dressed in baggy clothing or a group of teens as a threat to their safety.

"The fear is what impacts on the quality of their lives," Mundo said.

Since applying for the grant last August, Campbell said several steps have been taken to deal with issues surrounding teen violence and the fear many senior citizens have about becoming the victims of youth crime.

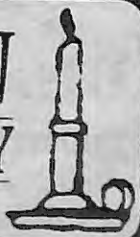
In response to a gang related after-school melee in the High School parking lot and an incident involving a truckload of teens from Southwick coming to the High School to settle a boyfriend/girlfriend rivalry with an Agawam teen, a police cruiser has been a visible presence in the parking lot at the close of school as well as throughout the day. And a resource officer has been assigned to permanent duty at the school.

Last spring, the Police Department offered three seminars at the Senior Center dealing with crime prevention and safety related issues.

**PLEASE REMEMBER that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053.**

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# Campaign Trail Leads Harshbarger To Senior Center



MASSACHUSETTS ATTORNEY GENERAL SCOTT HARSHBARGER, now a candidate for governor, made a campaign stop at the Agawam Senior Center last Friday. IN PHOTO LEFT, Harshbarger is pictured with Mary Gannuscio, Edith Gates, and Nellie Robinson; IN PHOTO RIGHT, State Rep. Daniel Keenan gives Harshbarger his endorsement. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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**BBB**

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Standard & Poor's Bond Rating improved to:

**A**

*"The rating upgrade ... reflects **strong financial management** demonstrated by the ability to maintain a stable financial position during the recent economic recession."*

Standard & Poor's - May 15, 1995

Under Chris' leadership over the past two years, the town's  
Standard & Poor's Bond Rating improved again to:

**A+**

*"The town has demonstrated **conservative financial management** since the recession of the early 1990's ... up to and including plans for the current fiscal year. This **prudence and sound management** has resulted in steady growth in the town's unreserved fund balance and stabilization fund."*

Standard & Poor's - June 13, 1997



**Re-Elect  
Chris Johnson  
Mayor**

**Please Vote On Tuesday, October 7th**

If you would like a Johnson for Mayor lawn sign, please call Anna at 786-6297.  
Thank you.



## Refrigerator Magnets To Assist Elderly Being Distributed In Town

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

Just about everyone has refrigerator magnets. Some hold important cards or notes in place; some are merely decorations; others advertise everything from health clubs to pizza shops. But, the best ones are the ones that can save your life, as Agawam senior citizens will soon be finding out.

Under the auspices of the Seniors And Law Enforcement (SALT) Council, the Agawam Senior Center has begun distributing the File of Life Packet to homebound seniors as part of the Meals on Wheels Program.

Designed to fit into a four-by-five-inch plastic jacket and to be magnetically attached to the refrigerator, the File of Life is a comprehensive document detailing medical emergency information, including current medications, allergies, and medical insurance information, as well as the names and phone numbers of doctors and people to be called in an emergency. A red File of Life sticker, to be affixed on the inside of the front door at eye level, is part of the package.

The sticker is intended to alert emergency medical response teams to the existence of the file.

Gail Freeman, deputy director of the Senior Center, said the files are being initially offered through the Meals on Wheels Program, but plans are being made to distribute the files at the Senior Center Health Expo on October 2nd.

"We understand that in areas where the File of Life is being used, the EMT's will take the file off the refrigerator and take it with them when transporting someone to the hospital so they can get a head start on initial patient care," Mrs. Freeman said.

Purchased with funding left over from last year's Agawam Police Department effort to implement an automated phone calling program to provide welfare checks to shut-ins and senior



**THE SENIORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL (SALT) at the Agawam Senior Center has begun distributing the "File of Life" refrigerator magnets. From left - Barbara Gagnon, Robert D. Campbell, chief of police; Gail Freeman, deputy director, Agawam Senior Center; Oliver Muldrew, SALT chairman; and Jessie D. Fuller, vice-chairman. Advertiser**

News photo by Jack Devine.

citizens, the File of Life has been made possible by the generosity of the civic organizations who donated more than enough money to purchase the Are You OK? system, according to Police Chief Robert D. Campbell.

### Pro-Active Approach To Senior Issues

The File of Life goes hand-in-hand with the Are You OK? program in taking a pro-active approach to dealing with home safety and emergency medical issues for Agawam seniors, Campbell said.

"This is something particularly worthwhile," Campbell said. "It's hard to remember pertinent medical information when you're in distress."

As a supplement to the File of Life that will remain on the refrigerator, Campbell is hoping to raise enough money to provide a portable, wallet-sized file, which also fits into a red holder to draw

the attention of emergency medical personnel.

"If I can raise another \$150, we can get the File of Life ID cards for the seniors to carry in their wallets," Campbell said.

SALT Council President Oliver Muldrew said he first came across the File of Life Program as part of his involvement with the Hampden County Triad partnership between the elderly and law enforcement officials. But, lack of funds stymied his efforts to bring the program to Agawam.

"The chief has been behind the SALT Council all the way," Muldrew said.

Anyone wishing to have a File of Life for themselves or for a family member, can call the Senior Center to set up an appointment for an interview to assist in filling out the form.

The phone number for the center is 786-0400, ext. 242/243.

## Veterans' Corner...

### "Dentistry For All"

by Ruth Carr Bitzas  
Veterans' Agent

I've noticed over the years in dealing with those having financial and physical problems that when times are really tough, one of the first things to go are insurances.

I receive many calls from veterans throughout the Western Hampden District wanting any information possible in having necessary dental work done. As most veterans are aware, the Dept. of Veterans' Affairs doesn't cover any dental work in most cases.

This past week, I have just become aware (through a client) of a program called "Dentistry for All." It is a needs-based program sponsored by the Massachusetts Dental Society, a constituent of the American Dental Association, and if eligible, a person can receive dental treatment at a lower rate.

The approved applicant is mailed a list of participating dentists. People in receipt of Medicaid are not eligible; however, Medicare recipients may apply. Once approved, the eligibility expires in two years and one must then reapply.

THIS IS NOT A VETERAN PROGRAM, BUT IS OPEN TO ALL WHO MEET THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. This sounds like a great program for those who "fall in the cracks" with income too high to be eligible for Medicaid, but low enough to make dental care almost impossible.

In order to receive an application, you will need to WRITE A LETTER OF REQUEST TO: The Massachusetts Dental Society, 83 Speen Street, Natick, MA 01760-4144, Attn.: Dentistry for All. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Good luck.

\*\*\*

REMINDER: The groundbreaking ceremony for

the first state Veterans' Cemetery will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 8th, at the cemetery site, corner of Main Street and River Road, Agawam.

There will be free parking available at Riverside Park, and Peter Pan buses will transport you to the site. Afterwards, all are invited to a celebration picnic lunch at "The Grove" at Riverside.

A "Parade of Colors" will begin at 10:00 a.m.

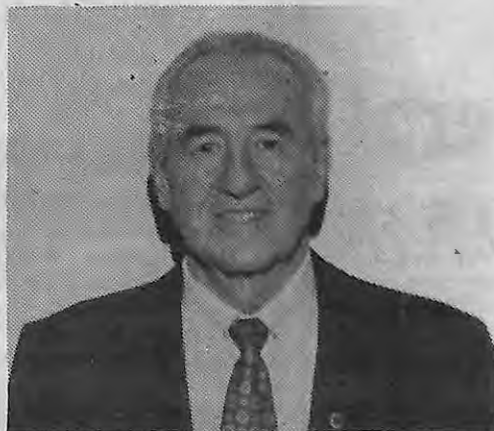
from the Agawam V.F.W. (Post 1632) and march to the cemetery for a review of the colors. The Cemetery Steering Committee is very excited about these plans, as well as the generosity of everyone (including businesses) throughout the Western Massachusetts area.

It seems that everyone wants to be a part of Mr. Squazza's dream for a state Veterans' Cemetery in Agawam.

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## Expiration Of 90-Day Grace Period Sends Ordinance On Signs Back To The Table

by Kathy Cassanelli  
News Editor

On Monday night, Town Council gave final approval to an ordinance requiring a special permit from the Board of Appeals for any business seeking to operate a drive-thru service window. But, a second ordinance to amend the zoning code had to be withdrawn because the council's deadline for taking action had expired in July.

Frustrated that a relatively simple change in controlling the use of temporary signs has been stymied after months of discussion and two public hearings, Councilor Jill Simpson vowed to return the item to the council agenda as soon as possible.

"This is not going to die," Mrs. Simpson said. "The plan had been to have this cleared up for the summer season, but now it looks like we'll be lucky to get it for the Christmas season."

Pointing out that the council's 90-day time limit for taking action on the ordinance had passed on July 17th (90 days from the date of the council's public hearing), Councilor Gary Suffriti denied he was using stall tactics on the verge of the measure's second reading.

Frustrated and annoyed, Mrs. Simpson said the ordinance could have passed its first reading, thereby falling within the deadline, if the council had not decided to table it at its July 7th meeting when she was on vacation.

But, Suffriti said some councilors had questions they wanted to address to Mrs. Simpson before going forward with the first reading.

After consulting with the Planning Department, Mrs. Simpson said, "It's basically back to square one. The Planning Board has to hold another public hearing before it comes back to us for another public hearing and a vote."

Due to scheduling constraints and the necessity of advertising the public hearings, the ordinance will be on the Planning Board's October 20th agenda for a second public hearing, and it will be on the Council's November 7th agenda for a second public hearing and a second vote (on a first reading).

At the first first reading on September 2nd, the vote was nine "yes," one "no" (Councilor Joseph Langone), and one absent (Councilor Thomas Ennis).

The proposed sign ordinance bans the use of temporary signs in business zones except at churches or seasonal farmstands.

### First Proposed In March...

Sponsored by Mrs. Simpson, the measure was first proposed in March as an outgrowth of the work done by the council's Zoning Review Committee in 1996. The ordinance has received the support of the council's Ordinance Committee, the Planning Board, the building inspector, and the Agawam Chamber of Commerce.

Currently chairing the Zoning Review Committee, Suffriti said he discovered the deadline had passed while attempting to set up a committee meeting to discuss issues raised by former Building Inspector Joseph Conte at the council's public hearing in April. Earlier this month, Suffriti apologized for failing to hold a committee meeting sooner.

Mrs. Simpson has been working with the Planning and Building Departments to address some of the concerns uncovered during her committee's review of the zoning code last year. The sign ordinance was to have served as the first small step toward tightening the zoning code.

Aware of the reluctance of Town Councils, past and present, to take on zoning issues, Mrs. Simpson said the committee decided to start with something small, like the sign ordinance, before moving on to larger issues. Also under consideration at the Planning Board is a revamped version of Mrs. Simpson's ordinance to amend the zoning code dealing with home businesses.

The council's approval of the drive-thru ordinance came after the Planning Board sent a positive recommendation to the council in support of the zoning amendment. Planning Board members expressed their concern with issues relating to location, signage, and vehicle stacking space after having reviewed requests for drive-thrus, including restaurants, a convenience store, banks, ATM's, and a pharmacy.

Prior to Monday night's vote, only drive-thru restaurants were required to obtain a special permit from the Board of Appeals.

Langone voted against the ordinance; the remainder of the council voted in favor.

## Senator Melconian Hails Finalization Of Insurance Pact

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased to announce that on Wednesday, September 10th, the Massachusetts Legislature passed an Unemployment Insurance compromise that will provide real relief to Commonwealth businesses while still protecting our workers who rely on the fund.

"We can now provide businesses with lower costs without mortgaging the unemployment insurance fund," Melconian said. "Massachusetts currently has a financially solvent fund that can withstand an economic downturn and still provide excellent benefits to Massachusetts residents who lose their jobs through no fault of their own."

In February, the Senate passed legislation which would have frozen unemployment insurance rates for one year. Unfortunately, the Senate and the House could not come to an agreement on the issue, and in April, rates were automatically raised approximately \$40 per employee. Under the new UI legislative compromise, rates will decrease approximately 20 percent.

The Senate voted to freeze rates and wait until the fund was strong enough to withstand a recession. In 1988, the fund stood at \$1.2 billion. Within two years, it was broke, and the state was forced to borrow money from the federal government. In February 1997, the UI fund was \$850 million. Melconian and others thought a higher standard needed to be met.

"It would have been irresponsible and reckless to decrease rates when the fund was not even at 1988 levels," Melconian said. "At the end of 1997, the rates will be very close to \$1.2 billion. The time to give businesses a meaningful cost break has come."

The legislation will be sent to the Governor, who has indicated he will sign the measure.

*All the local news  
with us, each week*  
**ADVERTISER NEWS**

# Yeeee Haaaa!

Two of the brightest stars in Country Music let it rip this weekend!

### ★John Berry

1996 Academy of  
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### ★Lorrie Morgan

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### ALSO...

#### ★The Pendragons

Las Vegas Illusion Act  
Sept. 18-22, 1 & 4:30 p.m.

### OTHER COOL STUFF...EVERYDAY

#### ★NASA's International Space

Station exhibit, Young Building

#### ★Big E CIRCUS under the Big Top,

sponsored by Coca-Cola

#### ★Harvest New England

Food Demonstration

Kitchen, sponsored by

Bay State Gas Co. in the New England Center

#### ★Joie Chitwood's THRILL Show,

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Outdoor Arena ★Grande PARADE,

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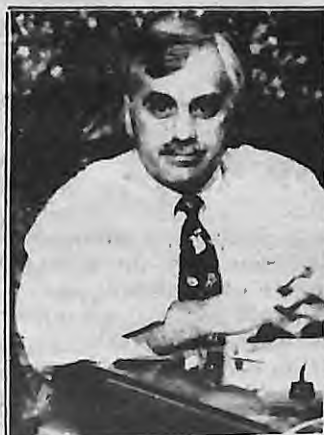
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## Don't Let Boston Massacre Hampden County



### Hampden County Review...

by Commissioner Abraham Kasparian

#### HAMPDEN COUNTY RETIREMENT SYSTEM

A meeting of the Hampden County Task Force was convened on Aug. 27th at 6:30 p.m. at the Hall of Justice in Springfield to discuss the financial impact that current legislation to abolish Hampden County would have on the remaining member units of the Hampden County Retirement System.

It was reviled at the meeting that the original legislation called for the cities and towns which participate in the retirement system to pick up any monetary shortfall upon the abolition of coun-

ty government.

Governor Weld vetoed that section of the bill amending it so that any financial burden would be born solely by the State. Unfortunately, the House overrode the Governor's veto and as of this date, the remaining cities and towns who participate in the retirement system would shoulder the financial burden for the next 32 years. Agawam is currently the largest participant in the system of any of the cities and towns.

This bill, House Bill No. 4588, for the abolishment of county government, will next be presented to the Senate for discussion and vote. We at the Hampden County Task Force, at our meeting, drafted a letter to the State Senate asking them to uphold the Governor's veto and require that any financial shortfall in the retirement system as a result of the abolishment of county government be born completely and solely by the Commonwealth.

#### COMMISSIONERS CALL FOR LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION MEETING

At our last meeting, the commissioners called for a legislative delegation meeting to be held on Friday, Sept. 26th at 9:00 at the Hall of Justice to present the opportunity for our area legislators to come together to discuss other possible implications that the abolishment of county government may have on the local communities.

Issues that the commissioners felt needed discussion include transition or disposal of current county held land; future status of certain county employees; possible transfer and storage of county highway records; and further financial impact (other than retirement system) on local cities and towns.

## Jr. Women's Club Urges Townspeople To Vote In Primary

The Town of Agawam is having a primary election and, later, a local election for City Councilors, Mayor, and School Committee.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club urges everyone to get out and vote. For those citizens who feel their vote does not make a difference, please note that by a one vote margin-

Oliver Cromwell received control of England; King Charles I of England was executed; Americans adopted the English language instead of German; Marcus Morton was elected governor of Massachusetts; Texas was brought into the Union and California, Oregon, and Washington were admitted to statehood; Andrew Johnson's impeachment was defeated; Adolf Hitler became leader of the Nazi party.

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF ONE!

This message is brought to you by the Agawam Junior Women's Club, a member of the GFWC and a member of GFWC of Massachusetts.

best local news...

## FireWise...

### Numerical Identification On Buildings In Agawam

Agawam Fire Chief David Pisano would like to remind every homeowner and business owner that they are required to provide numerical identification on every structure in town.

Mass. General Law, Chp. 148.s 59, states, Every building in the commonwealth, including, but not limited to, dwellings, apartment buildings, condominiums, and business establishments shall have affixed thereto a number representing the address of such building. Said number shall be of a nature and size and shall be situated on the building so that, to the extent practicable, it is visible from the nearest street or road providing vehicular access to such building.

Our local ordinance also requires that every structure have a number visible from the street or on a sign post a minimum of three inches on a contrasting background.

It is critical for emergency responders to have easy access to every location in town. Valuable time is lost when the responders have to spend time looking for an address that has no number posted.

If you have your house sided or painted, please see that the numbers are replaced soon after the job is completed.

# Ag. Obituaries

## Darlene M. Escalante

Darlene M. (Tremblay) Escalante, 30, of 31 Cherokee Drive, Springfield, died after an illness at the home of her parents, Donald and Judy (Burroughs) Tremblay of Feeding Hills.

She worked in the tax office of Women's Specialty Retailing Co. in Enfield, CT (now the Casual Corner Group).

Born in Holyoke, she lived in West Springfield most of her life.

She was a 1984 graduate of West Springfield High School, and a former communicant of St. Thomas Church.

She moved to Springfield six years ago.

She was a former member of the Pioneer Valley Yacht Club.

Besides her parents, she leaves her husband, Joseph Escalante; a son, Anthony, at home; three brothers, David and Dennis of Agawam, and Donald of South Hadley; two sisters, Debbie Marchetto and Denise Tanguay of West Springfield; and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield, and the Sacred Heart Church, with the burial in Springfield Street Cemetery, both in Feeding Hills.

Memorial contributions may be made to Rays of Hope, Development Office, Baystate Medical Center, 759 Chestnut Street, WMU-5, Springfield, MA 01199.

## Lyman T. Moores

Lyman T. Moores, 78, of Wales Road, Monson, died in an Agawam nursing home.

He was the owner and operator of L.T. Moores Real Estate for many years, before retiring. He also worked at Trevallion Real Estate in Wilbraham for many years.

Born in Vernon, CT, he lived several years in Monson and was a member of Monson United Methodist Church.

He was a graduate of Monson High School, and an Army veteran of World War II.

He was also a member of the Day Spring Lodge of Masons, the Springfield Rifle Club, and the National Rifle Association.

He leaves his wife, the former Dorothy B. Smart; a son, Lyman T. III of Sequim, Washington; two daughters, Donna M. Reynolds of Princeton, and Barbara J. Lippert of Sequim; and seven grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Lombard Funeral Home, with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the church, Main Street, Monson, MA 01057.

SEE OBITUARIES - Page 11...

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*Family  
Considerations*



OBITUARIES - from Page 10...

**Wildor A. Theroux**

Wildor A. Theroux, 78, of 270 South Street, Agawam, a retired employee at the former Chicopee plant of the Uniroyal Co., died at home. Born in Holyoke, he lived 45 years in Agawam. He was a communicant of St. John's Church and a member of the senior bridge clubs in Agawam and Chicopee's Aldenville section.

He leaves his wife, the former Genevieve Krzelest; three sons, Thomas of Virginia, William of Williamsburg, Virginia, and James of Oakdale, CT; a brother, Laurence of Holyoke; two sisters, Evette Arel of Claremont, New Hampshire, and Clair Connelly of South Hadley; six grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was private.

A memorial Mass was held in the church, and Nowak Funeral Home in Springfield's Indian Orchard section was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Jimmy Fund, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, One Harvard Square, Brookline, MA 02146-9795.

**Stella Doy**

On Saturday, September 6, 1997, Stella (Tyburski) Doy, 92, of Philadelphia, Tennessee, and formerly of Agawam, died at home.

She had formerly worked at Riverside Park in Agawam and was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, before settling in Tennessee several years ago.

She was predeceased by her husband, Leonard C. Doy, in 1951.

She is survived by two daughters, Shirley Stefanik of Boca Raton, Florida, and Lois Setterberg of Philadelphia, Tennessee; a sister, Edna Drzyzga, and a brother, Stanley Tyburski, both of Agawam; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass was celebrated on Saturday, September 13, 1997, at 10:00 a.m. at St. John the Evangelist Church. A private burial was held at the convenience of the family, and there were no calling hours.

Arrangements were under the direction of the Colonial Forastere Funeral Home of Agawam.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders, c/o Visiting Nurse Association, 50 Maple Street, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102.

**Hope Altman**

Hope (Kelley) Altman, 67, of Lake Worth, Florida, and formerly of Agawam and Longmeadow, died August 29th after a long illness.

She was a native of Maine and a member of Twin Hills Country Club in Longmeadow.

She leaves her husband, Charles; a son, Peter of Florida; two daughters, Jodi Wolfe of Duluth, Georgia, and Nancy Altman of Clearwater, Georgia; a brother, Francis; a sister, Bette Ann Colbath; and five grandchildren.

Another daughter, Jane, predeceased her.

A memorial service was held at the I.J. Morris Funeral Home on September 4th, and interment was held in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Palm Beach County, 5300 East Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida, 33407.

**Mary A. King**

Mary A. (Taylor) King, 87, formerly of Oxford Place, West Springfield, died in an Agawam nursing home.

Born in Chicopee, she was the chief telephone operator for Sears, Roebuck & Co. for 26 years, retiring in 1972. She previously had worked for the New England Telephone Co.

She was a graduate of Holy Name High School and a member of the West Springfield Golden Agers. She was active on the West Springfield Council on Housing.

She leaves a daughter, Patricia A. Jones of Arnold, Maryland, and a granddaughter, Melissa Kahn of Silver Spring, Maryland.

The funeral was held at the Sampson Chapel of the Acres Funeral Home, followed by services in Sacred Heart Church in Springfield. Burial was in St. Michael's Cemetery.

# **"STAND-DOWN-97"** **For Local Veterans Is** **Slated For Sept. 27th**

Attention, veterans! Are you unemployed? Are you depressed and tired of dead ends? In need of a medical plan or services? Are you facing legal issues? Are you simply in need of a haircut?

On Saturday, September 27th, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Northampton VA Medical Center and VFW District 7, in cooperation with Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee, will present "STAND-DOWN-97."

This effort is an assembly of services provided by federal, state, and local organizations to assist the veterans of our communities. Legal, social, Registry of Motor Vehicles, and walk-in medical help are just a few of the services provided.

Food, clothing, and shelter are just some of your needs which can be met. Remember to bring your DD-214 — it's your ticket to faster service!

With or without it, help is still available. Take this chance to help you help yourself.

For more information, for directions, or to arrange transportation, please call (413) 584-4040, ext. 2540.

# **Be Careful Around** **AHS's Parking Lot**

Due to the construction that is taking place at Agawam High School, the high school administration and the community resource officer are asking parents to drop off their children more carefully.

Please drive into the parking lot by the "hard hat area" construction sign to drop off your children or use the library parking lot.

Do not stop at the beginning of the parking lot, as it is too dangerous.

*Best local news...*

*check our classified pages*



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- 1 Bundle Of Corn Stalks
- 1 Mum
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**\$9.99**

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Fresh Picked...  
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**39¢ Lb.**

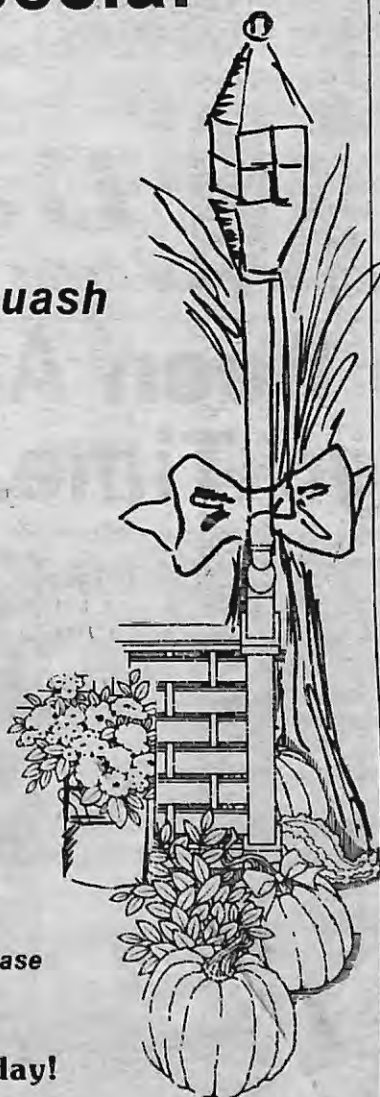
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# Campaign '97

## Johnson Is Proud Of Agawam's Outstanding Public Library

In a campaign statement issued this week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "Agawam is fortunate to have a wonderful public library which offers many different kinds of materials for residents of all ages.

"During my tenure as mayor, the town has increased funding for books and materials by over 56 percent which has allowed the library's collection to diversify with more audio and videotapes, compact discs, and more reference and multimedia materials on CD-ROM.

"Library circulation continues at approximately 235 percent of what it was 10 years ago. Agawam's average circulation per capita is about 30 percent higher than the state average for our population group. Recent statistics show that our staff circulated 18,818 items per full-time equivalent, which is 62 percent higher than the state average of 11,572 items per full-time equivalent.

"During my tenure as mayor, the staff at the library has grown by over 15 percent, which has helped us maintain and improve services while staying open over 60 hours per week."

Johnson continued, "Earlier this year, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners approved the town's application for grant assistance to make a substantial addition (approximately 18,600 square feet) to the library, which will allow our library to grow with our community. The addition will more than double the size of the library and create:

- additional quiet study space for students and patrons of the library;
- a separate and more extensive reference area;
- a larger segregated children's area with its own programming space;
- more extensive young adult and large print collection areas; and...
- a larger audio visual and computer area.

"The town is currently on a waiting list for state funding (over \$1.7 million), and we expect to begin construction of the addition within the next few years.

"In addition, the Library Director and her staff have been very successful in obtaining competitive grants to provide additional materials and equipment. This hard work has allowed the library to acquire public access personal computers and software. The library has also acquired a computerized card catalog system called Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC).

"Along with a wonderful staff, the library is blessed with many wonderful volunteers who provide invaluable assistance, and it is also blessed by the generosity of many civic groups who make annual donations to improve and expand the library's materials collection.

"I am proud of our public library, and I plan to continue my support of its outstanding efforts," concluded Johnson.

## Bitzas Continues Support For Elderly



TOWN COUNCILOR GEORGE BITZAS has again pledged to continue his support for issues concerning the town's senior citizens. Bitzas is pictured at the Agawam Senior Center recently with William Case, Bob Fournier, Priscilla Magagnoli, John Balas, and Rene Lariviere.

## Bitzas Fully Endorses Returning Hampden County Land To Agawam

City Councilor George Bitzas says that the 250 acres of county land purchased by the county in the 1940s should be returned exclusively to Agawam.

He strongly opposes the idea of some officials that the land should be sold and the proceeds split evenly among all of the 23 cities and towns of the county.

"I will never accept this idea and I will fight very hard to prevent this from happening," said Councilor Bitzas. "This land was our land. This land is in our town and this land belongs to Agawam and should be returned back to us without any cost when the county dissolves."

Bitzas added, "If we lose the land now, forget it. We will never get it back. Common sense says it belongs to our town."

Bitzas has started a local petition drive to gain support for a proposal that would transfer ownership of the county land to the Town of Agawam

when the state legislature shuts down county government. Bitzas also co-sponsored a resolution last June, which had the full support of the council and the Mayor, asking the state elected officials and the governor to approve legislation giving Agawam control of the 250 acres once Hampden County is eliminated. In a meeting with the county commissioners, Bitzas stated that his will and the will of the Agawam people is that the land be transferred to Agawam without any cost.

Bitzas also told the commissioners that any other land that the county has that is in any other city or town should be returned to their respective communities.

"If we are successful in getting our 250 acres of land, then we must use it for athletic fields; soccer, baseball, football, and basketball courts, land for passive recreation, and open space. We must improve the quality of life for all residents of our town," Bitzas concluded.

*Candidates - thanks for bringing in your items on Monday!!!*



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<b>Carpet Cleaning</b>	We Will Move & Replace Most Furniture
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	<b>789-3535</b>
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<b>LONGO</b>	Any Order Of \$50 Or More
<b>Carpet Cleaning</b>	Not Valid With Any Other Offer
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## Campaign '97 - continued...

### Langone Opposes Overregulation Of Local Businesses

Incumbent City Councilor Joseph F. Langone today expressed his opposition to the overregulation of businesses by city ordinances.

He explained, "As the son of an Agawam business owner, I know well the risks and difficulties involved in the establishment and operation of a small business. I have every intention of voting on any and all proposed ordinances which come before the council, but I will not and cannot support any legislation that seeks to 'strong arm' the business owners of our community."

Langone continued, "Recently, a barrage of proposed ordinances on a variety of business-related issues have come before the council. They seek to regulate home businesses, signs, cellular phone towers, and business structures. It is my opinion that these types of ordinances create an attitude which is unfriendly for owners of businesses in our town."

"Furthermore, they give rise to an 'anti-business' climate which, economically speaking, is downright dangerous. Agawam must find ways to attract businesses, not to discourage it (so we can continue to develop our tax base). In this way, we generate the necessary funds for our services and capital improvements."

Langone concluded by noting an ironic twist that he finds disturbing. "Some town officials and politicians have no scruples about trying to overregulate business by means of these proposed ordinances."

Ironically, however, many of these same individuals, according to Langone, have no problem supporting a huge power plant development in Agawam which seeks to be exempt from our zoning laws.

"It's a sad state of affairs when we frame laws in our community which are detrimental to our citizens and then turn around and tell 'strangers' that they are not obliged to play by the same set of rules. I want the voters to know that my response to ANY proposed ordinance aimed at businesses and business owners will be a resounding NO," concluded Langone.

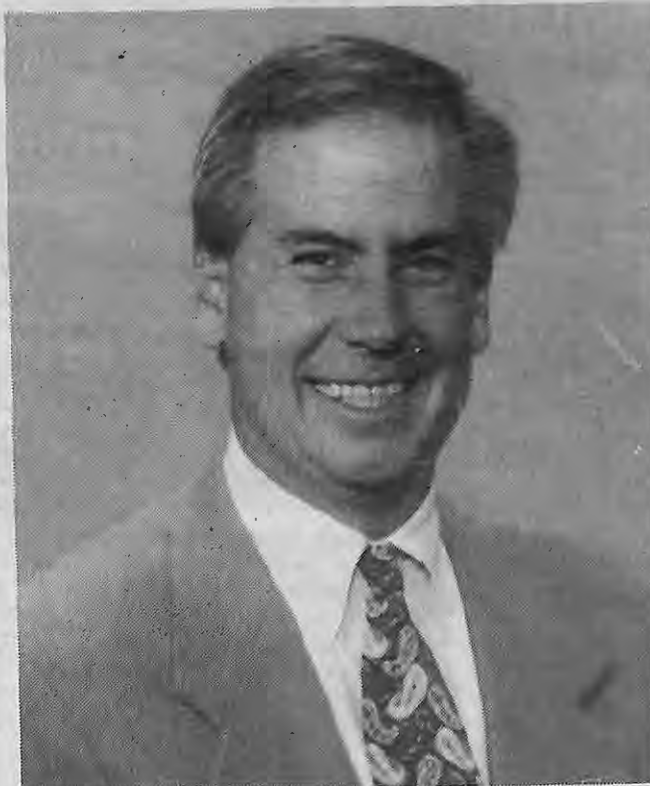
### Bitzas Committee Plans Fundraiser For September 28th

The Committee to Reelect George Bitzas to the Agawam City Council cordially invites all the people of Agawam to attend a reception in his honor from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 28th, at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam.

Refreshments will be served. The contribution is \$10, and tickets will be available at the door.

If you are unable to attend and you would like to make a donation, please send it to: Committee to Reelect George Bitzas, 33 Fernwood Drive, Agawam, MA 01001.

**CANDIDATES: We must insist you meet our Tuesday noon deadline. We also are very grateful to all who bring in their items on Monday. Thanks again.**



ROBERT M. YOUNG

### Robert M. Young Is A Candidate For Town Council

Robert M. Young has announced his candidacy for a seat on the Agawam Town Council. Young said, "I feel that the Agawam Town Council needs new faces with fresh ideas and people who will listen to the concerns of the residents of our community and act upon them in a thoughtful and professional manner."

Young is a graduate of East Longmeadow High School, and he has earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from Springfield College. He is presently employed as a Systems Consultant for Tobin Systems, Inc. in Springfield, and is taking graduate classes at Harvard University. He lives on South Westfield Street with his wife, Karla Mancini Young, and their 10 month-old twins.

Young said, "I plan to strongly support our public schools, promote youth programs, and expand our senior citizen services." He is a founding member of the Agawam Lacrosse Association, and he is presently working with the Agawam Recreation Department and the High School coaches on the creation of a youth lacrosse league.

Young continued, "I decided to seek public office so that I could give back to the community which my wife and I have chosen to call our home. I have watched the present Council in action, and I strongly believe that change is necessary for our community to grow and prosper. I believe that the combination of my education, experience, and desire will be an asset to the residents of Agawam."

Young closed by saying, "My wife, Karla, and I are proud parents of twins, and we want our children to grow up in Agawam and enjoy the high quality of life that great schools, diverse recreational programs, and open space provide. I respectfully ask the people of Agawam and Feeding Hills to support my candidacy so that I can bring my professional work ethic for positive change to the Agawam Town Council."

Check our classified pages

### Negrucci Emphasizes Need For Voter Input To Council Candidates

John J. Negrucci, candidate for Agawam City Council, recently emphasized the necessity of candidates to receive input from the voters.

He stated, "I want the voters to feel free to call or discuss with me in person, their views on the issues confronting our city. Personally, one of the most enjoyable parts of campaigning is the interaction with the people."

"My goal is to run a positive campaign to help make the change to a professional and courteous council."

Negrucci, a former union pension fund administrator, resides at 35 Hayes Avenue with his wife, Cyndi. Their three children all reside in Agawam and all graduated from the Agawam school system.

Negrucci explained that he is happy to have the help of his wife and children in his campaign.

To that regard, John announced that his son, Scott Negrucci, is in charge of lawn sign locations, which is one of his many duties in assisting in his father's campaign. Scott is a 1982 graduate of Agawam High School and a graduate of Western New England College.

Scott, who is looking forward to helping his father in the campaign, stated, "Lawn sign locations are important to any campaign. I am now compiling a list for the October 7th primary. Anyone who wants a lawn sign should not hesitate to contact me at 789-6492."

Scott also stated, "It is important to let people know my father is running and that every vote in the October 7th primary is just as important as the general elections. Lawn signs show support and also remind voters to consider my father for one of their 11 votes."

Council candidate John Negrucci concluded, "My campaign will be brought to the voters in numerous ways. I don't believe in running a stealth campaign or hoping that the wind blows my way. I intend to be accessible and accountable, demonstrating to the voters how I will conduct myself as a councilor. The voters deserve that respect."

### Langone Committee Plans Fundraiser At Chez Josef Sept. 24th

The Committee to Re-Elect Joseph F. Langone to the City Council will host a fundraiser in Councilor Langone's honor on Wednesday, September 24th, at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for the event are \$15 per person and may be obtained by calling committee Chairperson Ellis L. Langone at 786-9474. Tickets will also be available at the door.

### "Johnson For Mayor" Signs Are Available

If you would like a "Chris Johnson For Mayor" lawn sign for the upcoming primary, please call Anna at 786-6297.

### PRIMARY DAY Tuesday October 7th

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*Campaign '97 - continued...***Kasparian Announces Candidacy For Seat On Agawam Town Council**

"I'd like to take this opportunity to formally and publicly accept the nomination and announce my candidacy for Agawam City Council," said Abe Kasparian, Jr. in a recent press statement.

"Nineteen years ago, my wife and I chose Agawam for our home. We invested in Agawam by purchasing our home on School St. and developing a business in town. I hold a Master of Education Degree in Business Management and hold an undergraduate degree from Westfield State College.

"I am a notary public, private pilot, Shriner, Honorary Hampden County Deputy Sheriff, President of CleanWise, Inc., and investment property owner and manager. I hold a Real Estate Broker's license and am affiliated as a Realtor at Century 21. I am also the first County Commissioner from Agawam in the history of Hampden County.

"I find it rewarding to be involved in community affairs and I was honored to receive the appointment to serve, at the pleasure of the Town Manager's Office and the Mayor's Office, for 10 years as a member and then as president of the Agawam Financial Development Authority," said Kasparian.

"It was also a privilege and an honor to be the Council's and the Mayor's choice to serve for three years as a board member of WESTMAS Area Development Corp. Together with over 20 other board members on a regional level, we took the bankrupt WESTMAS corporation and developed it into a non-profit company that facilitated the development of Agawam's industrial park as well as other industrial sites in Westfield, Chicopee, and South Hadley.

"What was the most rewarding experience for me was to work together with the cross education of people to redefine WESTMAS Development and create regional industrial economic growth. Agawam benefited by the more than 10 new companies that have brought jobs and tax dollars to our community. It was the hard work of that group of men and women that created economic stimulation for our region and I am proud to have been a part of that team," Kasparian said.

"In my current position as Hampden County Commissioner I have had the opportunity to meet

and work with many legislators and other elected officials throughout the state. I am also currently serving as Chairman of the Hampden County Task Force studying the financial impact of the abolishment of county government on local cities and towns. Chairman of the Hampden County Regional Services Committee, and as a member of the Hampden County Budget Committee.

"I have worked closely with the other commissioners both before taking office and thereafter to affect many new, needed changes to the County with the most important being the trimming of the county budget so that it would be in line with expected revenues going from a \$3.7 million deficit to a surplus of \$600,000.00 at the close of the current fiscal year.

"Agawam unfortunately faces the prospect of \$380,000.00 additional assessment against Agawam's retirement system with the abolishment of County Government and the continuation of the approximately \$120,000.00 per year in tax assessment that the Agawam taxpayers currently pay to the county which would then be paid to the state based on current legislation. I have proposed new legislation that will eliminate the additional \$380,000.00 tax as well as eliminating the current tax assessment paid to the state and returning that tax assessment to the general fund for the benefit of the Agawam residents rather than the benefit of the state. This legislation would also benefit the other 22 cities and towns that make up the county," said Kasparian.

"My education, knowledge, and experience working with legislators to find positive solutions to sometime complex issues is what I will bring to the Agawam City Council.

"I believe in obtaining the most complete background knowledge possible in each issue that comes before me and then making objective decisions. I further believe that each issue must be looked at carefully to determine what the impact of actions taken today could have on the future.

"I advocate the free and open flow of ideas between the residents and the Council as well as between the Council and the Mayor so as to foster a professional atmosphere of cooperation so that the interests of the Town will not be delayed.



ABE KASPARIAN

"I would like to thank all those who nominated me for a position on the Agawam City Council and I look forward to having the opportunity to put my broad base of knowledge and experience to work for you, the citizens of Agawam, as a member of the Agawam City Council," concluded Kasparian.

**Johnson Opening Headquarters In Feeding Hills Center**

The Committee to Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson extends a cordial invitation to all the residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills to attend the **GRAND OPENING** of the **JOHNSON FOR MAYOR** headquarters on **Saturday, September 27th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

The headquarters are located at 23 Southwick Street (next to SUNOCO station) in Feeding Hills. Please come and meet Chris and his campaign staff, and enjoy the light refreshments.

Anyone interested in volunteering may contact Pat at 786-1093 or Anna at 786-6297. Thank you.

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Feeding Hills**



Campaign '97 - continued...

## Lawlor Says Lack Of Leadership Responsible For Lack Of Significant Zoning Reform

"Last week, in defense of his failure to achieve any significant zoning reform during his tenure in office, Chris Johnson made a remarkable statement," said mayoral candidate Frank Lawlor in a press statement.

"He claimed that he was 'an administrator' rather than 'the legislator' and therefore was not responsible for the lack of movement. While I find it tragic that Chris Johnson views his role simply as that of an administrator, a mere bureaucrat, I believe that his statement succinctly illustrates the choice that voters will be facing in November. Chris Johnson will administrate while Frank Lawlor will lead! Chris Johnson will play with numbers and micromanage each department, while Frank Lawlor will unite this community again and allow us to move forward together," said Lawlor.

"If I am elected Mayor of Agawam, I plan to be much, much more than an administrator. I believe that the Mayor of Agawam should be, first and foremost, a leader. To be a leader involves a great deal more than picking out paint colors for the firehouse and supervising the painting of lines on the golf course parking lot. A mayor must be an individual who can set the tone for the entire community.

"He/she should be able to clearly enunciate goals, to build consensus behind those goals, and to work together with the appropriate departments and citizens to assure that the goals are attained. If obstacles or objections are encountered along the way, the mayor cannot pack up his ball and bat and go home. As a leader the mayor must work with all parties involved to address concerns and to overcome objections. If the mayor fails to garner the needed community support for a proposal, it probably means that the mayor has erred. It does not mean that the entire community is wrong.

"A leader is an individual who can respect the voters enough to tell them the truth. A leader is an individual who will listen to others, who will surround him/herself with highly qualified department heads, and who will delegate responsibility to those individuals so that he/she can focus on the bigger picture," said Lawlor.

"I believe, too, that a leader should be a visionary. The mayor should be an individual who can envision a better Agawam and can move a united community toward that day. While back room dealings and quiet meetings have been the norm for the past few years, the Lawlor ad-

ministration will be noted for honest and open discussions and, if necessary, frank conversations between the citizens and the administration.

"Department heads will be important resources and a free exchange of ideas will be encouraged. The City Council will be a trusted partner in this process. As the elected representatives of the voters, the council is the people's voice in our government. The Lawlor administration will hold no puppet strings nor will it expect councilors to ignore their responsibility to the voters by blindly following the mayor's wishes.

"In my administration," said Lawlor, "I will view the wishes and advice of our council as the wishes and advice of our people and they will be listened to and acted upon. Agawam has become too big a city for one individual to lead alone. By trusting each other and openly dealing with the issues that we face, the community will be able to make great progress toward a better tomorrow for us all.

"During this campaign I intend to outline my 'Agenda for Agawam' so that all voters in Agawam will have a clear understanding of my vision for this community. I hope that we can begin to move together toward our goals the day after the election.

### AGENDA FOR AGAWAM

1. **The Agawam Municipal Center!** In Agawam's current Capital Improvement Program, approximately \$12,000,000 has been designated for the design and construction of a new DPW Facility, a new Town Hall, additions to the Senior Center, and to the Public Library. While we may quibble about what project should be given the highest priority or about why the mayor has relegated our senior center improvements to the year 2002, the need for these facilities cannot be denied. I don't, however, feel that our goal-setting should stop there.

I envision, and would urge community support for, the creation and development of an Agawam Municipal Center. I propose that the City seek an adequate parcel of land in some central location within in the community, possibly "Tennis Road" or the Hampden County Land in Feeding Hills, which

would, over time, become the home of our new Town Hall, DPW facility, and our new Senior Center. I would hope that this new complex could be developed in a way that would eventually lead to a campus-like setting as the center of our municipal government.

I would hope to see a new Senior Center constructed that would become the hub of activities and services for all of our seniors. I feel that we should create a new position, Director of Elder Care Services, to oversee the activities at the center and to coordinate our efforts with those of the many other facilities within Agawam. This center should be owned and controlled by the town. To simply add to the existing center seems shortsighted since the land is owned by the Commonwealth.

A new Town Hall would dramatically ease the interaction of citizens with the town. By constructing a modern, handicapped accessible structure which would include space for all departmental offices, a large community/meeting room, and an appropriate council chamber, we could alleviate the chaotic maze-like hassle that we currently have to deal with. If the new Town Hall included the correct facilities, we would be able to move events and programs currently housed in the library's community room into Town Hall and use the vacated space to enhance Agawam's Children's Library and/or to ease some of the overcrowding in our current library. The building currently housing our Town Hall may be usable as a "Middle School Annex" if needed to address overcrowding issues or it could be sold or leased to a private developer for professional offices.

It will take time for the vision of this Municipal Center to become reality. While we have already

SEE LAWLOR - Page 16...

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REVEREND LEN COWAN



## Campaign '97 - continued...



CHRIS QUATRONE

## Quatrone Seeking Reelection To Seat On Ag. Town Council

Chris Quatrone has formally announced his candidacy for reelection to the Town Council in Agawam. Chris was first elected in November of 1995 and is near the completion of his first term on the Council.

Quatrone said, "I would like to thank the residents of Agawam for placing their trust in me over the past two years. I have tried to be a positive and reasonable voice on the Council, and I have worked to enhance our senior citizen services, improve our public schools, and strengthen our public safety services."

Councilor Quatrone is a lifelong resident and a graduate of Agawam High School. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Government and History from Western New England College and a Master's Degree in International Studies from Central Connecticut State University. Quatrone has been an active member of the Massachusetts Municipal Association and the Massachusetts Councilors Association.

Quatrone said, "One of the most rewarding experiences that I have had as a city councilor is my service as Chairperson of the Ordinance Committee. The Ordinance Committee is the most active sub-committee of the Council, and I have enjoyed working on public safety ordinances and zoning reform. I am also proud to have voted for two consecutive town budgets which substantially increased funding for our public schools and added more police officers and firefighters, while not increasing property taxes for our residents and businesses."

Councilor Quatrone went on to say, "The most disappointing aspect of my service to the residents of Agawam over the past two years has been the constant bickering and confusion created by the current majority on the Council. When the majority of the Council voted NO and not allow the Police Chief and the Mayor to speak on an important public safety issue, I spoke up and voted YES; when the majority of the Council voted NO and rejected the town budget which threatened essential town services, I spoke up and voted YES; and when five councilors called a special meeting on a Friday night and voted YES to oust the council president while the Mayor was out of town, I spoke up and voted NO."

Quatrone concluded by saying, "I have and will continue to work hard to fight for the best interests of our community. I will continue to strive to a voice of reason and responsibility on the Council, and work to end the bickering and confusion."

## Qualifications Of Candidates Most Important: Euliano

Bill Euliano, candidate for Agawam City Council, recently offered his views on the importance of the candidate's qualifications.

Euliano stated, "I offer my qualifications to the voters. My background as a graduate of the University of Hartford, B.A. Psychology, as Operations Manager of a manufacturing and food distribution company, and as Chairman of the Agawam Board of Health uniquely qualify me for the office I seek. Qualifications directly relate to one's ability to demonstrate leadership."

"The people of Agawam also have a responsibility in this election. When I was gathering signatures for my nomination, the most significant thing I found was the number of people who were not even registered to vote. If you don't register, you can't vote; if you can't vote, you forfeit your right to have a voice in your community."

"Many people often complain about the image of our City Council. Then they need to share the responsibility of analyzing the qualifications of the candidates. To blindly vote for incumbents without measuring their qualifications or holding them accountable for their past performance doesn't do the challengers like me justice. What you do then is keep the same old problems and negative image for our town."

"You can make a difference and I'm asking you to consider my qualifications."

Euliano concluded, "It's time for sensible, qualified leadership. It's time for the Agawam City Council to move forward in a positive direction. It's time for Euliano."

### LAWLOR - from Page 15...

*designated a significant amount of funds for these separate projects, any plan of this scope will require professional planning and an appropriate balancing of priorities. It will also require extensive input from the citizens. However, by dreaming a little, by setting our goals high and working together toward them, we will begin to see a very attractive improvement in the facilities of our government.*

*2. Revised Office Hours Along with my rather extensive and complicated plan for a municipal center, I would quickly implement a much simpler change that would help to open the town's government to its people. I would issue a revised schedule for all town departments. Since Agawam's government is in the business of serving its citizens it would only stand to reason that government offices should be open at least one night per week and I will encourage citizens to make appointments with me to discuss any municipal issue. I also promise that I will see to it that town departments are opened and staffed at least one night per week. I would also expect that most town departments will be open on Saturday mornings. Individuals who have questions about their tax bills, the building code, or individual zoning issues, but work during the day, should not be denied the ability to come into their Town Hall to discuss matters with the people they pay to help them.*

"I hope that during the remaining weeks of this campaign, I will be able to outline specific items on my **Agenda for Agawam**. I hope that this agenda will serve as a beginning point for the discussion that I look forward to having with all of you. I hope that in time we can chisel together an agenda that will serve as a road map for all of us as we move forward together," concluded Lawlor.

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## Servis Encourages Business Growth That Is Compatible

In a press release issued this week, Town Council President and mayoral candidate Kent Servis stated, "With the ever-increasing cost of providing goods and services to the citizens of Agawam, it is mandatory that the city leadership promote new growth businesses. It is equally important that in the process of encouraging new business growth, that we do not harm the existing businesses that have been the backbone of our business community over the years."

"We must seek out the types of industries that are compatible with the type of development that we have in our existing industrial park. Well-planned development does not have to be unfriendly to business."

"We must also insure that in the process of attracting industry to Agawam, that we do not let the simplistic lure of big dollars cloud our vision. We are a rural community that has grown at a rapid pace. Most of the lifetime residents, as well as those who moved here over the years, enjoy our rural character and quality of life."

"We must grow, but not at the expense of the 'town' atmosphere that many of us find attractive."

"As your mayor, I will not promote the designs of any industry that seeks to come here and take over this town, influence the outcome of elections, and file suits against neighbors and abutters."

"Next year, bond payments on several projects will have to be met. The next several years will require new dollars from new or expanded business ventures. This is a necessary thing to keep the tax rate stable for our residents, but we can not turn away from good business practices in pursuit of the fast buck."

Servis continued, "Mayor Johnson tried to pass a contract with the power plant that would have run for 40 years, with no re-negotiations. I don't care how good of a deal he might think it is, I believe that it is not in the best interest of the City of Agawam to enter into such a long-term deal without having an opportunity to re-negotiate terms as conditions change."

"Other communities have five-year clauses, and many would like to shorten that to an annual review. Don't forget what a good deal we thought we had at Bondi's Island!"

### The Citizens And Their Government

"I have always felt that the citizens had an absolute right to have a say in how the government runs things. In fact, I believe that the citizens have more than just a right to have their voices heard; they have an obligation to let their elected officials know their wishes!"

"Your elected officials all have their own ideas about how things should be done, but they are whistling in the dark as far as knowing what you the citizen may want or not want for the Town."

"As your mayor, I will have an open door to the people of Agawam. I have always been willing to listen to viewpoints other than my own, and I am used to forming decisions based on all of the facts."

"Except for the one instance where a unanimous council override of any veto was absolutely certain, our current mayor has stood in the way of the people being able to decide major issues at the referendum level."

"As your mayor, I will not thwart the will of the people to express their opinion at the ballot box or elsewhere! This is not some hollow campaign slogan, but is at the very core of my belief system."

"Don't forget to make your voice heard in the primary election this fall. Your vote counts — use it," concluded Servis.

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## Families



MR. & MRS. JOHN S. BENJAMIN

### Jennifer L. Brittain Becomes Bride Of John S. Benjamin

Jennifer Lynn Brittain and John Stephen Benjamin were married on July 4th at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills.

The bride is the daughter of Marsha Brittain and Paul Brittain. The groom is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy Benjamin.

Attendants of the bride were Natalie Drenthe (maid of honor), Noreen Drenthe, Megan McDade, Brenda Dupras, and Samantha Weissman. Brittany Laflamme served as the flower girl.

The groomsmen were Chris Benjamin (best man), Mark Brittain, Michael Birk, Richard Birk, and Scott Anderson. Stephen Laflamme served as the ring bearer.

The bride is a 1993 graduate of Bay Path College and a 1995 graduate of Elms College. She is employed as a special education teacher, at The White Oak School in Westfield.

The groom is a 1994 graduate of Western New England College. He is employed with Progressive Builders in Feeding Hills.

The couple will be residing in Agawam.

*Townfolk turn our pages every week for local news!*



PRESENTING THE JIMMY FUND'S Bob Cheyne Lifetime Commitment Award to long-time Jimmy Fund supporter Peter Clark of Agawam (second from right) are, from left -Cheyne's son, Craig, his widow, Shirley, his son, Scott, and Suzanne Fountain, Jimmy Fund director.

### Peter Clark Of Agawam Recipient Of Prestigious Jimmy Fund Award

Among the recipients of the second annual Bob Cheyne Lifetime Commitment Award was Agawam resident Peter Clark. He was honored at a special function held recently at the "Diamond at Fenway" at Fenway Park.

The award was presented this year to 27 members of the Jimmy Fund Councils of New England — "Jimmy Fund ambassadors" — who have dedicated 10 or more years of service to the Jimmy Fund, the main fundraising arm of Dana-

Farber Cancer Institute, a recognized world leader in cancer care and research.

The award was named for Cheyne because he exemplified volunteerism and was a major participant in the start of the Jimmy Fund Council of Greater Boston.

Cheyne passed away two years ago. He was also the founder of the Greater Bostonians — "Music Makers for the Jimmy Fund."

### "Agawam-opoly" Coming Soon From Agawam Rotary Club

The Agawam Rotary Club is putting together the first and only edition of "AGAWAM-OPOLY." The Rotary Club is seeking local businesses and individuals to sponsor the real estate ad squares. Only 500 boards will be manufactured and ready for sale prior to Christmas.

The cost of the ad squares ranges from \$200 to \$300. Individual patron ads are available for \$25. The squares and patrons ads are limited and are selling fast.

For more information, contact Tim Ayre at 786-2084.

*Please remember our deadline is Tuesday at noon.*

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## Friday Bingo

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## Volunteers Sought For Connecticut River Source To Sea Cleanup

The First Annual Connecticut River Source to Sea Cleanup is a massive one-day river cleanup with hundreds of volunteers cleaning up the banks of the Connecticut River and its tributaries in Massachusetts and Connecticut. Work gloves and refreshments will be provided for the volunteers.

This event will take place on Saturday, September 27th, with a 10:00 a.m. kickoff. The actual cleanup will begin at 10:30 a.m. and run until 1:00 p.m.

If you are interested in joining this worthwhile effort, you can participate by showing up at one of these four sites: the Riverdale Shops parking lot behind Costco, West Springfield (off Route 5); at Canal Park in South Hadley, located near the Route 91 rotary; the Oxbow Marina off Route 5 in Northampton; and Barton Cove in Northfield.

The First Annual Connecticut River Source to Sea Cleanup is a project of the Connecticut River Watershed Council (CRWC) and MASS Student PIRG chapters.

## Agawam/Feeding Hills AARP To Meet On Monday, Sept. 22nd

The first fall meeting of the Agawam/Feeding Hills chapter of AARP will be on Monday, September 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

The guest speaker will be Senator Linda J. Melconian.

What's more, visiting from the Boston AARP Headquarters will be District 4 Coordinator Matthew Towle.

Everyone is welcome.

## Agawam Seniors Work To Save Tax Dollars

Thanks to a program offered through the Town of Agawam, retirees have an opportunity to decrease their property tax bill by participating in a voluntary public service program.

This program was offered last year and was most successful. Volunteers fill out an application form indicating their work experience and skills that may qualify them for potential job openings and the position they would like to perform. Interviews are conducted and the most qualified candidate is selected.

The volunteers must agree to perform 100 hours of community service. For this service, they will receive a \$500 voucher which they can use to reduce their property tax bill.

Chelmsford was the first community in the state to offer this particular opportunity to its seniors, and other towns are now following suit. Seniors must be 60 years of age, a homeowner, and an Agawam resident.

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson pointed out that 10 seniors participated last year, and that the feedback he received from the various town departments was that the seniors are excellent workers.

"It's a win-win situation. The Town wins because the necessary work is accomplished, and the senior wins because of the tax savings and the sense of community service."

The program has been extended to fund 12 positions this year.

Positions are available in various town offices. For further information or an application to apply, please visit the Personnel Office at the Agawam Town Hall or the Agawam Senior Center. The application deadline is October 1, 1997.

**Check  
our  
classified**

## Lewis & Nancy Hill To Speak At Garden Workshop Series

Stanley Park's Garden Workshop Series will feature special guest speakers, Lewis & Nancy Hill, on Saturday, September 20th, in the sheltered pavilion from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Hills will present "Growing Tree Fruits and Berries in the Home Garden," which will give tips on cultivating a home fruit tree orchard and berry plantings, including advice on buying, planning, planting, feeding, pest control, pruning, restoring an old orchard, harvesting, and recipes for using the harvest. Included in their program are care demonstrations in Stanley Park's fruit tree plantings. This program is free of charge.

The Hills are authors of *Fruits and Berries for the Home Garden* and have written 12 other books, contributed portions of others, and have written hundreds of articles for magazines. In their northern Vermont home orchard and gardens, the Hills have conducted hardiness tests on hundreds of plants for universities and experiment stations.

Lewis Hill has grown fruits and berries for over 50 years. One of Nancy Hill's hobbies is collecting fruit recipes and experimenting with new ways to use fruits and berries.

The Hills have received many awards for their community, literary, and horticultural achievements. They are members of several plant societies and trade organizations. Currently, the Hills operate a nursery specializing in over 80 different kinds of small fruits.

For further information on Stanley Park's Garden Workshop Series, call the Park office at (413) 568-9312.

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JENNIFER COUGHLIN & CHRISTOPHER DOLAN

## Jennifer T. Coughlin Engaged To Wed Christopher M. Dolan

Mr. and Mrs. John Coughlin of Westfield announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer T. Coughlin, to Christopher M. Dolan of Mansfield, MA. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Dolan, Sr. of Mansfield.

A March 1998 wedding is planned. The bride-to-be graduated from Agawam High School and North Adams State College. She attended the University of Connecticut, where she received certification in cytogenetics. She is employed by the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester.

Her fiancé graduated from Mansfield High School and North Adams State College. He is employed by the Massachusetts State Police.

*Best local news...*

## More Participants Sought For Townwide World War II Week

One of the feature attractions of the "World War II Week," which is the theme of the Inter-Generational program being conducted by Agawam High students and senior citizens, will be an evening of dance music provided by the Agawam High Jazz Band, directed by Tammy Watson, senior high music director.

The "Canteen Hop" will feature Big Band swing and ballad selections that were prominent during the war years (1940-1945), and will take place at the Senior High School cafeteria on Friday evening, November 21st, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

So put on your dancing shoes, or just come to listen to all-time favorites such as "In The Mood," "Little Brown Jug," "Pennsylvania 6-500," "Sing, Sing, Sing," "720 In The Books," "Chattanooga Choo Choo," "Bolero At The Savoy," "Shoo Shoo Baby," "920 Special," "Strictly Instrumental," and "Boogie Blues."

Among the slower, danceable numbers will be "Talk Of Town," "Blueberry Hill," "Poinciana," "I Can't Begin To Tell You," "Saturday Night," "Laura," "Temptation," "Honey," "Hold Me," "Swinging Down The Lane," "Peg O' My Heart," "I'm Beginning To See The Light," "Dream," "Day By Day," and "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows," along with many others.

Participation by seniors citizens who still play instruments is encouraged; also, we expect some "alumni" of the school's jazz band to "sit in" or even take over a portion of the program. Please contact Ms. Watson if you would like to be a part of this program. \*\*\*

The "World War II Inter-Generational Week" will take place November 17th-21st and will feature classroom visits by senior citizens who will talk about the life and times both on the battlefield and the homefront.

Displays are being arranged and anyone who would be able to share their experiences from this era is urged to contact Bernadette Conte at the high school (821-0523). Your presence and your comments are needed and will be most appreciated by students who will benefit from these visits.

Another feature event of the week will be an evening of songs at the High School Auditorium on Wednesday, November 19th, at 7:00 p.m. The program will include a chorus composed of senior citizens, "not so senior citizens," High School, Junior High, and Middle School students who will present a lot of the songs of the World War II era.

Audience participation will be encouraged on a number of selections, and the program will be more of a "Campfire Sing Along" style rather than a formal Choral presentation, although some very fine soloists and prepared group numbers will be featured.

The Chorus is still in the formative stages and will have a number of practice sessions in future weeks at which new members will be welcome. Contact Darcy Davis at 786-7356.



MR. & MRS. PAUL J. CHEVALIER

## Marci A. Seklecki Becomes Bride Of Paul J. Chevalier

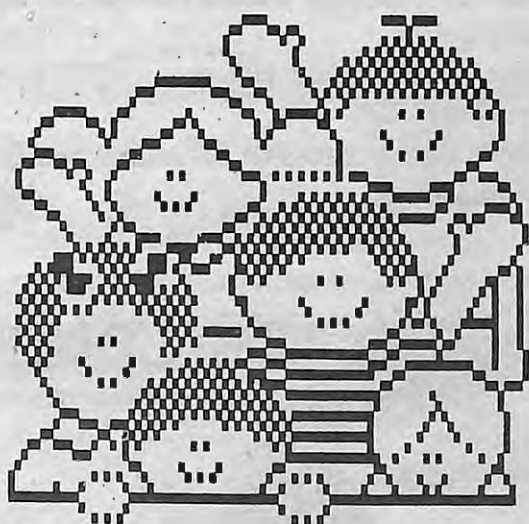
Marci A. Seklecki and Paul J. Chevalier were joined in marriage at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Springfield.

The bride is the daughter of Claudia Seklecki of Agawam and Joseph J. Seklecki, Jr. of Jay, Vermont. Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Chevalier of 14 Oak Lane, Feeding Hills.

The bride's sister, Lisa M. Seklecki, attended the bride as maid-of-honor. Mark Chevalier served his brother as best man. After a reception at Chez Josef in Agawam, the couple honeymooned on a cruise in the Caribbean.

The bride is a commercial claims representative at Insurance Center of New England in West Springfield. The bridegroom is a heating and air conditioning technician for Astro Heating and Air Conditioning, also in West Springfield. The couple will reside on Nicole Terrace in Feeding Hills.

We're well adjusted  
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## Hallowscream Fest At Riverside Park During October

In October, Riverside Park will transform from New England's SuperPark into the biggest and best Hallowscream celebration in New England. Activities and attractions are already being planned and constructed to ensure that Hallowscream 1997 will be a celebration to remember.

"Extreme care and attention to detail have been the main focus during the preparation for the upcoming Hallowscream celebration," stated Bill Muirhead, General Manager of Riverside Park. "This year's investment for Hallowscream has more than quadrupled compared to last season. This will definitely be the greatest Hallowscream event that New England has ever experienced," Muirhead added.

Each day will be filled with a variety of family Hallowscream activities guaranteed to thrill guests of all ages. Daytime activities (Saturdays, Sundays, and Monday, October 13th from 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m.) are already under construction. They include hayrides along the Connecticut River, children and adult costume contests, two Haunted Houses, a Pumpkin Patch (where children can paint and decorate their own pumpkin), a Trick or Treat Village (where children can venture through a goodies trail in search of a variety of treats), and a Masquerade pavilion where children can create their own mask or goody bag.

Nighttime activities (Fridays, Saturday, Sunday from 5:00-11:00 p.m.) will have an added "Fright Factor" for those courageous guests who are already to brave the Haunted Hayrides along the Connecticut River, two Haunted Houses, rides, attractions, and much, much more.

Hours of operation are Friday, 4:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.; Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m., and Columbus Day, 11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Non-water rides and attractions are open throughout Hallowscream.

## Women Veterans Being Sought For Vets Post 463

If you are an armed services woman veteran of any war, from World War I to the Persian Gulf, won't you please join your sister veterans in Post 463.

Pioneer Valley Post 463 is the only all-women American Legion in Western Massachusetts.

Our Post 463 has a yearly membership drive, and yet very few women veterans ever respond to our plea. Why, I, Rose Haynes, am at a loss to why you women veterans are hesitant in joining an all-women veterans group.

Won't you please call me at 786-2597 so I may be aware of the reason so few women veterans answer our call.

Post 463 meets the first Sunday of each month, except August, at 1:30 in the Grand Army of the Republic Hall, East Court Street, Springfield. The GAR Hall is located to the left of Symphony Hall.

The purpose of our Post 463 is first to help veterans (men and women) in need of the Pioneer Valley, and second, to support veteran ceremonies in the area, as well as those of women veterans in the eastern part of the state.

## World War II Chorus Has Practice Sessions During September

The World War II Chorus, which has been meeting in preparation for the "Evening of Songs" on November 19th, will have two more practice sessions in September.

They will be held at the Senior Center (off Main Street) on Tuesday evening, September 23rd at 7:00 p.m., and Tuesday afternoon, September 30th at 2:30 p.m.

New members who would like to sing with the Chorus at the program during "World War II Week" are still most welcome. Attendance at all of the practice sessions is not required as long as everyone gets to be familiar with the songs to be performed in the "informal" sing-along style program.

A schedule of October practice sessions will be released shortly and will offer a variety of times and days to enable people with various time commitments to still be a part of the chorus.

A tentative selection of songs has been made from the dozens of possibilities. Word sheets and music will be used at the performance, which will offer a predominately "seated" chorus along with some soloist, small group, and student presentations.

## A Limo Ride For \$1 Million Winner



GAERY COSTA of Agawam receives a kiss from his wife, Cathryn, after collecting his payment on a \$1 million scratch ticket bought at Cumberland Farms in Feeding Hills. Looking on is the Costas' son, Zachariah, and their limo driver for the day.

## Agawam Senior Center Begins Classes For Country Western Line Dancing

Country Western Line Dancing classes have begun at the Agawam Senior Center on Thursdays from 1:00-2:00 p.m.

These classes are designed at the beginner/intermediate skill level and for persons 55 years of age or older.

Country Western Partners Dancing and Basic

Two Step lessons are offered every Thursday evening from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 per couple, per class. There is no need to pre-pay or pre-register. This class is not exclusively for seniors.

For more information, call Lynn at 783-1447.

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## Exciting Mix Of Old & New At This Year BIG E

The 1997 Big E will celebrate 76 years of providing a fun-filled extravaganza for the entire family with exciting new exhibits and attractions, top-name entertainment, and returning favorites that will blend to make this year's edition of "New England's Fall Classic" an unforgettable event.

### IN THE ALL-NEW YOUNG BUILDING:

- **International Plaza** - Featuring mouthwatering dishes and special displays of fine products from countries around the globe. (Sponsored by Western Union).
- **High Tech Plaza** - Where fairgoers will experience the "International Space Station Exhibit" via an interactive display. (Sponsored by Prime Star.)
- **Heroes and Legends** - Stop in for a sumptuous meal at this new, permanent, two-story, 250-seat restaurant.

### NEW ATTRACTIONS:

- **Harvest New England Food Demonstration Kitchen** - A full-equipped demonstration kitchen with special guests, including Martin Yan of "Yan Can Cook" and The Learning Channel's Nathalie Dupree. (Sponsored by Bay State Gas Co.).
- **The Philadelphia Mummers** - The Joseph A. Ferko String Band will show off its members' elaborate costumes by marching on the Village Green and in The Big E Grande Parade on September 27th and 28th. (Sponsored by Stop & Shop.)
- **Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition** - A photography exhibit which offers a detailed look at life on the Crow Indian Reservation at the turn of the century.
- **The Human Cannonball** - Dave Smith blasts off in the Outdoor Arena daily. (Sponsored by Budweiser.)
- **The Royal Lipizzaner Stallions** - September 24th through September 28th at 3:00 and 7:00 p.m. in the Coliseum.
- **Avenue of Agriculture** - Featuring an abundance of farm animals, a Fiber Nook, and a brand new Milking Parlor.
- **Butter Barn** - Creamy creations of popular barnyard animals. (Sponsored by Milk Promotion Services, Inc.)
- **Budweiser Beer School** - A 30-minute lesson which includes a tasting session of many popular Anheuser-Busch beers. (For "students" age 21 and over.)

### '97 ENTERTAINMENT:

- **Main Stage** - "Bowzer," September 15th-19th at 3:00 and 8:00 p.m.; "The Pendragons," September 18th-22nd at 1:00 and 4:30 p.m.; "John Berry," September 20th at 3:00 and 8:00 p.m.; "Lorrie Morgan," September 21st at 8:00 p.m.; "Crystal Bernard," September 22nd-26th at 3:00 and 8:00 p.m.; "Sammy Kaye Orchestra," September 23rd at 1:00 and 4:30 p.m.; "Knudsen Brothers," September 24th-28th at 1:00 and 4:30 p.m. (with an additional 3:00 p.m. show on September 27th and 28th); "Patty Loveless," September 27th at 8:00 p.m.; and "The Doobie Brothers," September 28th at 8:00 p.m.
- **Storowton Gazebo** - A German Obtoberfest in September with alphon melodies, German Biergarten favorites, and lively yodeling songs at 1:00, 3:00, and 7:00 p.m. daily.

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

- **Joie Chitwood's Thrill Show** - Through September 28th at 3:30 and 8:00 p.m. daily, with an additional show at 1:00 p.m. on weekends in the Outdoor Arena. (Sponsored by Town Fair Tire Centers.)
- **Italian Pavilion** - Live musical entertainment and scrumptious Italian food (dinners, salads, brick-oven pizzas, grinders, pastries, desserts, and gourmet coffees).
- **Fleischmann's® Best Holiday Yeast Bread Competition** - Tuesday, September 23rd at 11:00 a.m. To enter the contest, call (413) 787-0110.
- **National Best SPAM® Recipe Contest** - Monday, September 22nd, at 11:00 a.m. To enter your dish, call (413) 787-0110.
- **Barn Tours** - Tours depart daily between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. from outside Farm-A-Rama.

### PERENNIAL FAVORITES:

- **Farm-A-Rama** - An annual treat whereby you can experience the wonders of agriculture and animals.
  - **New England Center** - Featuring the winning entries from Craftadventure '97; the many activities supported by 4-H; the new Harvest New England Food Demonstration Kitchen; and the National Best SPAM® Recipe Contest and the Fleischmann's® Best Holiday Yeast Bread Competition.
  - **The Big E Circus, under the Big Top** - Free to the public, with daily shows throughout the fair at 1:00, 4:00, and 7:00 p.m. (Sponsored by Coca-Cola.)
  - **Storowton Village Museum** - Where fairgoers will be whisked back in time as they experience a variety of activities from the 19th century.
  - **Storowton Tavern** - A historic restaurant featuring the finest in American and Continental cuisine. Walk-ins are welcome during the fair, but reservations are recommended. (Lunch is from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and dinner is from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.)
  - **The Avenue of the States** - Experience all of New England on a single street. (Sponsored by Yankee Magazine.)
  - **Eastern States Exposition Horse Show** - Hunter and Jumpers, September 17th-21st; the 4-H Horse Show, September 19th-21st; and the Draft Horse Show, September 26th-28th. (Sponsored by Plymouth Place.)
  - **Agricultural Competitions** - Ox Pulling competitions on Monday, September 22nd; and Horse Pulling competitions on Tuesday, September 23rd.
  - **Children's Attractions** - Commerford's Petting Zoo; the Giant Slide; the McDonaldland Stage; The Mechanical Man; Happy Harry; and BiggieE, the official fair mascot.
- Celebrate The World's Only Big E with mouth-watering food, amazing attractions, and top-name entertainment through Sunday, September 28th. For more information, call (413) 737-2443, or visit on the web at <http://www.thebigE.com>.

*best  
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news!*

## Springfield Rescue Mission Slates Annual Friendship Banquet

The Springfield Rescue Mission is now in its 105th year of rescue ministry to the homeless, addicted, and poor of Springfield. Thousands of men, women, and children have been touched by its compassionate services provided through the rescue mission's many programs.

On October 3, 1997, the Springfield Rescue Mission will be hosting their Annual Friendship Banquet to say thank you to all the donors and volunteers who have played such a vital role in its ministry.

Ronald Willoughby, director of the rescue mission, said, "Your prayers, gifts, and financial support have encouraged us to 'Keep on keeping on!' We thank you and look forward with much anticipation to another 105 years of committed service."

The annual banquet is to be held at the Westover Air Base on October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. To make reservations or if you have any questions concerning the Springfield Rescue Mission programs, call 732-0808.

## Moore's Arrive For Army Duty At Oahu, Hawaii

A U.S. Army husband and wife team, Sgt. Brian E. Moore and Spec. Melissa M. Moore, have arrived for duty at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii.

Brian, a signals intelligence analyst assigned to the 733rd Military Intelligence Battalion, is the son of Wilma J. Moore of 212 W. 12th St., and Darrell E. Moore of Rural Route 2, both of Wayne, Nebraska. He is a 1990 graduate of Wayne High School.

Melissa, also a signals intelligence analyst assigned to the 733rd Military Intelligence Battalion, is the daughter of Bertrand and Donna McDonald of 96 Tobacco Farm Road, Feeding Hills. She is a 1994 graduate of Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

## Nominees Sought For "Friendship Award"

The "Friends" of the Agawam Senior Center presents a "Friendship Award" each year at the "Friends"/Council On Aging Annual Banquet. Application forms are available at the Agawam Senior Center, or can be mailed to you on request.

The qualifications for this award are as follows: the person must be 60 years of age or older, and has donated time to help others in the community.

If there are any questions, please call Lil Doyle or any member of the "Friends" board.

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Reverend Peter Monahan  
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## Ghost Story Written By Local Author On Sale At Ryan Drug

Durham Caldwell, whose career in journalism includes 24 years as news director at Channel 40 in Springfield, is trying his hand at fiction with a ghost story called, "The House at the Cliffs."

"The House at the Cliffs," which the author describes as "an occasionally bawdy tale of surprises and suspense for readers who don't take ghosts too seriously," is on sale in Agawam at Ryan Drug.

Readers willing to suspend their disbelief for the duration of the story will meet a man whose dreams eerily start coming true, visit an empty seaside mansion that the neighbors say is haunted, and sweat out a rescue attempt as one of the ghosts uses the telephone to urge a smalltown police force to "hurry up!"

"The House at the Cliffs" is printed in magazine format, is illustrated, and has a cover price of \$2.95.

## Historical Association Offers Bus Tour To Cooperstown Oct. 4th

The Agawam Historical Association is planning a bus tour to the museums of Cooperstown, New York, on October 4th. Students, families, and the general public are invited to attend.

Besides the National Baseball Museum, Cooperstown has a wealth of historic and cultural treasures, galleries, and restaurants. Among these are the Fenimore House Museum and the Farmers Museum.

The cost is \$20 per person, which includes coffee and danish on the bus and driver's gratuity. The bus will depart Agawam at 6:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 9:30 p.m.

For reservations and additional information, call 786-6835 by September 27th.

## Organ/Keyboard Lessons Available At Agawam Senior Center

Organ/keyboard lessons are being offered free to seniors at the Agawam Senior Center.

Times available are Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

If you are interested, please contact Jim White, Jr. on these days or leave a message at the Senior Center, 786-0400, ext. 242 or 243.

## AHS's Class Of 1937 To Hold 60th Reunion On September 28th

The Agawam High School class of 1937 is holding its 60th reunion at Take Five Restaurant in Feeding Hills on Sunday, September 28th. There will be a social hour at 1:00 p.m., with dinner to be served at 2:00 p.m.

Any classmates who have not been contacted, or any others who might be interested, are welcome to attend.

To make a reservation, please call Bill Walsh at 786-0071 or Mary Cimarioli at 786-3449.

## St. Thomas Church Is Now Seeking Crafters For Holiday Craft Fair

The Women's Club of St. Thomas Church, West Springfield, is accepting applications from crafters interested in participating in its fifth annual Holiday Craft Fair to be held Saturday, November 15th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the school auditorium.

For further information, please call 737-2166 or 737-4145.



### Open Meeting On Sept. 25th

The Agawam Senior Games Athletes (ASGA) will hold their next open meeting on Thursday, September 25th, at the Agawam Senior Center. The meeting will start promptly at 10:00 a.m. All interested residents are invited to attend.

*Best local news*

## Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, September 22nd:** Meatballs on French sub roll, tri-color tortellini salad, corn on the cob, watermelon.

**Tuesday, September 23rd:** Vegetable quiche, stuffed baked potatoes, tossed salad, rye bread, apricots.

**Wednesday, September 24th:** Chicken barley stew, cheddar cheese, biscuit, tossed salad, cookies.

**Thursday, September 25th:** Grilled Italian sausages with peppers and onions, pasta primavera, ice cream.

**Friday, September 26th:** Clam chowder, egg salad on a sour dough roll, cold spinach salad, mixed fruit.



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# Church News

## Reflections...

submitted by  
**Rev. Peter Monahan**  
Pastor of the Church  
of the Apostles,  
Suffield, CT  
(860) 668-4444 or  
(413) 786-8735

### Faith Is Acting On The Word Of God

Of all the books in the Bible, the great reformer Martin Luther disliked only one: the Epistle of James. In fact, if Luther could have had his way, James would have been dropped from the New Testament altogether. Martin Luther's dislike of the Epistle of James stemmed from the fact that this particular Epistle seemed to him to be legalistic; to Luther, it was a rulebook.

Martin Luther had struggled for a terribly long time, trying to be good enough to be accepted by God. Finally, a single phrase from the Book of Romans changed Luther's life forever. "The just shall live by faith." Luther's great doctrines became "Sola Fide," or "By Faith Alone"; and "Sola Scriptura," by "Scripture Alone."

People are not Christians because they were raised in a Christian home, nor because they grew up "in the Church." Nobody automatically becomes a Christian because his or her parents or other ancestors were Christians. Not all "good and decent people" are Christians; indeed, many of them are not.

Luther was correct in insisting that it is by faith alone that a person finds right standing with God. There is nothing any of us can do to deserve the favor of God, either in this life or in heaven. There is only one way a person can become a Christian.

Each of us must accept Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior. Each of us must accept Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior in order to become a Christian. We accept Christ by

faith, not in what we can do for God; but rather in what God has already done for us.

The Epistle of James is one of the "how to" books of the Bible. It is full of practical instructions on how Christians should behave. James by no means denies the necessity of faith in our lives. James casts faith in a slightly different light. For James, actions speak louder than words. For James, faith is acting on the Word of God.

There's a saying: "Christian Aren't Perfect - Just Forgiven." In a very real sense, that is true. However, it is not completely true. While nobody is perfect, a Christian's life should reflect the grace of God. Christians are "works in progress," with the emphasis being on the word "progress." It is in the day-to-day, real world, where James confronts us, and may make us feel uncomfortable.

**Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.**

Those of us who are not by nature gentle, nor patient, nor peaceable, nor inclined to be willing to yield to others, are presented with a great challenge. We can hear what God is saying to us. By and through God's grace we can address the deficiency in us. Or we can choose to disagree, and so to fool ourselves. It is easy to become a Christian; it's being a Christian that's tough!

Perhaps the Epistle of James is best summed up in these verses: "What good is it my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but you do not have works? Can faith alone save you?" "But someone will say, You have faith and I have works. Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith." "You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe - and shudder!" "For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead."

## Feeding Hills Congregational Lists Events From Sept. 18th To 24th

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. The Service of Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, September 21st, will be Proverbs 31:10-31, Psalm 1; or Jeremiah 11:18-20, Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Where You'll Find Glory."

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

\*\*\*

While you're at the Big E, stop in for dinner at the church on the green at Storowton Village. Our menu includes chicken pie, capon, ham, roast beef, and meat loaf. Dessert and beverage are included with each meal.

Prices are very reasonable for a delicious meal just like mom used to make!

\*\*\*

A new ramp has been installed at the back door of the church. Thanks go to Bob Marsh for a

beauteous landscaping job. Well done!

\*\*\*

Sunday School is off to a flying start. This year there will be units led by volunteer teachers.

If you would like to lead a unit, please speak to a member of the Board of Christian Education soon before all the slots are full!

\*\*\*

It's not too soon to start getting into shape for the annual CROP WALK on Sunday, October 19, 1997.

This is the 13th year that Feeding Hills Congregational Church has participated, so let's make this the "lucky" one and raise more funds than ever!

\*\*\*

On the calendar:

Thursday, September 18th: Informer deadline.

Saturday, September 20th: Herdsman's breakfast at the Big E.

Sunday, September 21st: 10:00 a.m., Worship/Sunday School.

Tuesday, September 23rd: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, September 24th: 7:00 p.m., Choir.

## Weekly Events At Valley Comm. Church

Valley Community Church is pleased to announce the return of Pastor Duncan Washburn as interim minister for the next several weeks. Pastor Stephen Dennehy will be on a missionary trip to Chimaltenango, Guatemala, until October 17th. Several of our church members will also be departing for Guatemala on October 11th to join him in this missionary work.

Reverend Washburn is a familiar face in this church for he has filled in during Pastor Steve's vacations throughout the past several years. His theological knowledge and ability in applying it to today's lifestyle has been enlightening for most church members.

His message this week, entitled "The greatest document ever," is taken from the Old Testament book of Exodus 20:1-17 and New Testament gospel of Matthew 5:3-9, 17-20. We encourage both members and visitors to attend this special worship service.

The children of the church will depart our Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. for Children's Church. Children's Church is based on the same version as heard by the adults, but explained in a way the children can understand.

Coffee and Fellowship is enjoyed by everyone at 10:30 a.m. This is a great time to meet with our visitors and to answer their questions about our church.

At 11:00 a.m., everyone is ready to settle down for Church School. Classes are available from kindergarten right through to adults. Nursery care is available throughout the morning.

The doors to Valley Community Church are open to anyone who is seeking to establish, or re-establish, a relationship with Jesus Christ. Visitors are warmly welcome.

\*\*\*

The children of the church will meet with choir director Margie Secora as they raise their voices in loud and enthusiastic praise during Choir practice. The fun begins at 6:15 p.m. every Wednesday, and these children encourage all their church friends to join them.

They will be singing during Children's Church on September 21st and during the adult Worship Service on September 28th.

\*\*\*

The Senior Choir will also meet on Wednesday, immediately following Junior Choir, at 7:00 p.m. Under the direction of choir director Sue Morgan, this small group of people have added tremendous depth to our Worship Service.

They share their faith through music to all in the congregation. Whether somber and thoughtful or uplifting and toe-tapping, their music touches the hearts of everyone.

\*\*\*

Just a reminder to church members: Our monthly "Fellowship Supper" has been canceled this month due to the Big E.

The next supper will be held on Friday, October 24th, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

\*\*\*

Valley Community Church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

For more information, please call the church office at 786-2445, Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

## Best local news...

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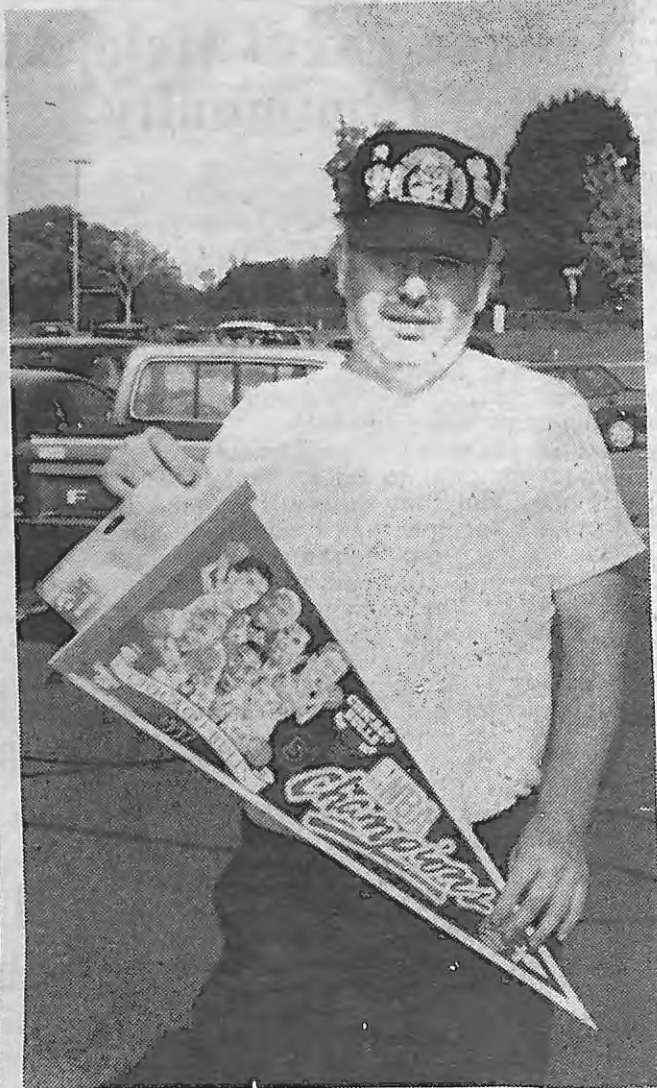
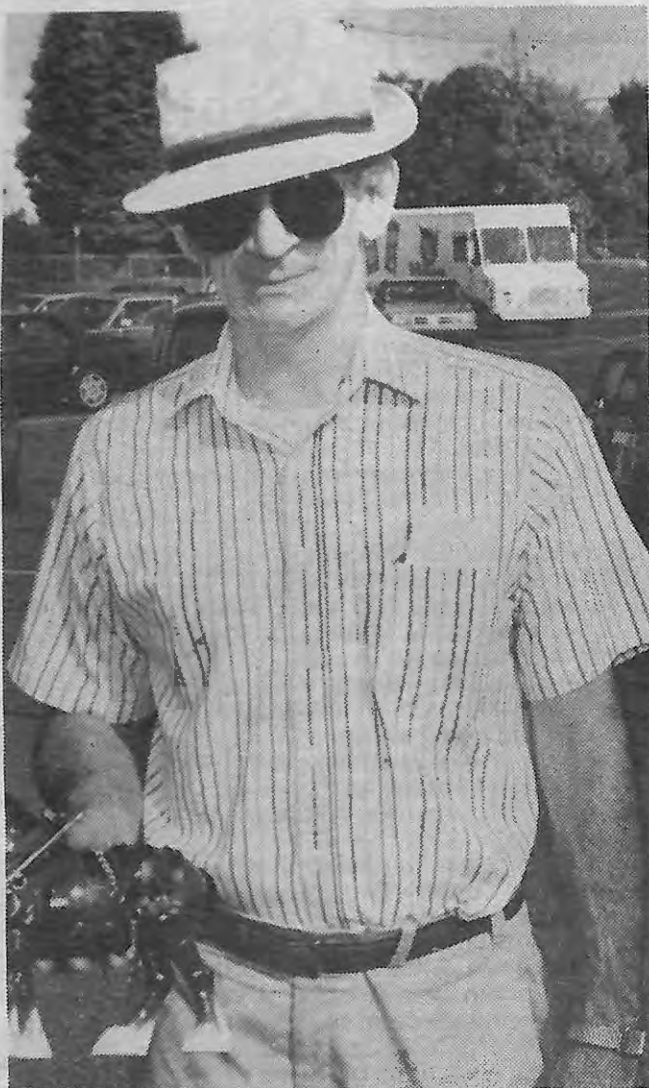
**(413) 733-8370**

376 Mass Avenue  
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Church News - continued...

## Tag Sale At Sacred Heart Church



**SACRED HEART CHURCH** in Feeding Hills held its Annual Tag Sale on Saturday, September 13th, in the church parking lot. From left - Kate and Janice McLean; Richard J. Mottle; and Jack Coleman. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



**KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON THE DESSERT TABLE** at the Sacred Heart Church Tag Sale on Saturday, September 13th included, from left - Lee Dion, Theresa Barlow, Mary Spinelli, Marilyn Morassi, and Carol Pignatere. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

*If you wish to be a new subscriber, call us right away*

## CCD Classes At St. Anthony's & St. Theresa's To Begin Sept. 22nd

The 1997-'98 Religious Education season at St. Anthony and St. Theresa will begin on Monday, September 22nd with a Mass at 7:00 p.m. in St. Theresa's Church.

Following the Mass, registration for all students that haven't previously registered and paid their registration fee will be held.

Classes will begin the following week:

Kindergarten through Grade 6, Sunday mornings at St. Anthony; Grades 1-5, Monday afternoon at St. Theresa; Grades 6-10, Monday evening at St. Theresa; Grades 7-9, Wednesday evening at St. Anthony.

If there are any questions, they will be answered at the opening Mass.

**Are you  
looking for  
*real*  
answers?**

The Bible gives answers to all of life's perplexing problems. It provides hope for a world gone crazy.

Join us this Sunday as we take a deep look into what God has to say.



The  
**Feeding Hills  
Congregational Church, UCC**

21 N. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills MA 01030

Rev. Robert C. Donaldson, Pastor

Phone 786-5061



## Church News - continued...

### Sunday School Shower Unique Event Held At Valley Community

To commemorate the kick-off of the Sunday School year, teachers came up with a unique idea to involve both students and adults.

On Sunday, September 14th, a Sunday School "Shower" was held at Valley Community Church, 152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills. The adults of the congregation purchased and wrapped various kinds of school supplies, from pencils to paper (and everything in between). During the fellowship time, everyone watched as the children opened all their "presents."

What a festive morning it was! One would never expect children to be so excited about school supplies, but they sure were. And so were the teachers, for now their funds can be used to get many of the great "extras" for their classes. Both teachers and students are eagerly anticipating the start of Sunday School on September 21st.

Sunday School superintendent Betty Kopy, along with teachers Sue Pearsons, Sally Dennehy, and Margie Secora expressed their gratitude to all the adults for their generosity in these school supplies. And a special "thank you" went to Margie Secora for organizing and overseeing the first Sunday School "Shower."

Valley Community Church has been truly blessed with these dedicated and caring teachers!

### Harvest Smorgasbord At First Baptist Church

A Harvest Smorgasbord will be held at the First Baptist Church of Agawam on Saturday, October 4th.

Seatings will be held at 4:45 or 6:15 p.m., and the cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children under 10 years of age.

The menu will consist of a fruit cup, homemade baked beans, baked ham, turkey, Swedish meatballs, American chop suey, Harvard beets, green bean casserole, sauerkraut, scalloped potatoes, cranberry salad, cole slaw, relish tray, rolls, assorted homebaked pies, and beverages (coffee, tea, or milk).

For reservations, please call Martha at 786-0337, Norma at 786-8209, or Jeanne at 786-8609. (Also, please call if you must cancel.)

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**Congratulations—  
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**Happy  
Anniversary**

### First Baptist Church Schedules Events For Sept. 23rd-Sept. 25th

Laymen's Sunday will be celebrated at First Baptist Church this Sunday at morning worship at 9:30 a.m.

Chairman for the morning's activities is Ray Williams, Jr. Assisting Mr. Williams in the worship service will be Steve Bailey, Josh Thomson, and Everett Hodge.

Williams' sermon topic will be "Jesus Said, 'I Need a Maalox.'" Special music will be presented by the Russian Congregation Choir. Following worship, classes for all ages will be held in Worthington Hall.

A coffee and conversation time will be held in Davis Hall.

\*\*\*

On our calendar this week:

**Tuesday, September 23rd:** 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 4:30 p.m., Our people serve at Loaves & Fishes (meals for the homeless); 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group

**Wednesday, September 24th:** 7:15 a.m., MidWeek Prayer Time, Chapel; 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open

**Thursday, September 25th:** 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does it Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal

\*\*\*

Deacons are reminded that their next meeting will be on Sunday, September 28th, at 7:00 p.m., in Lockhart Parlor.

All men are invited to attend the newly-formed men's group, which meets the first Monday evening of each month at 7:00 p.m. Watch our calendar for time and place of each meeting.

\*\*\*

Monday evening bible study, at the home of Sharon Grabowski, will resume on September 29th, at 7:30 p.m. Study leader is Dorothy Major, and the disciple John will be the topic of the study. This group is for all adults. Please feel welcome to be a part of this informal, yet informational study.

### Holy Family School Of 1952 Plans Reunion

The 1952 Graduating Class of Holy Family School in Springfield, MA is holding a Grammar School - Neighborhood reunion on Friday, September 5, 1997 at the Dante Club, 1198 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

If you attended Holy Family School or lived in the surrounding neighborhood and would like to take part in this event, please contact Alice (O'Donnell) Wydra at (413) 568-0675 or James Dunphy at (413) 786-9389.

### Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, September 21st, is Youth Sunday at Agawam Congregational Church. The Senior High youth of the church will be leading and participating in the service. The Worship Service continues at 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "Welcome the Children," taken from Text: Psalm 67 and Mark 9:30-37. His children's message will be "You are Number One."

\*\*\*

Church School continues at 9:00 a.m. for grades seven through 12, and at 10:30 a.m. for kindergarten through grade six.

The Church School will be using the "Whole People of God." This highly praised program will be used for every age group.

\*\*\*

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is toilet paper.

Items collected each week are donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

\*\*\*

Youth events for the Junior High and Senior High Youth Groups will resume their Fall Schedule Meetings on Sunday, September 21st.

The Senior High Group will meet first on September 21st at the church from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. to organize and plan their activities for the coming year. The Junior High Group will meet on September 28th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information concerning these groups.

\*\*\*

The church will hold an **All Church - Capital Fund Drive Meeting** on Sunday, September 28th, at 5:30 p.m. This will be a Potluck Supper with A-K bringing salads, and M-Z bringing main dishes. Desserts and beverages will be provided.

All members and interested persons are urged to attend this most important meeting concerning the church.

### St. John's Over 60 Going To Radio City

The St. John's Over 60 Club's trip to New York City and the Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall will be Saturday, November 29th.

Agawam Singles and St. John's Over 60 combined their efforts for this trip. The cost of the show and bus is \$90. (Seats are in the first mezzanine.)

For more information, call Lil Doyle at 786-9586.



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## Spotlight On Business

### Roses From Longmeadow Flowers



**LONGMEADOW FLOWERS IN FEEDING HILLS CENTER** held a "Good Neighbor Day" on Wednesday, September 10th. Each customer received a dozen free roses with the understanding that he/she would keep a single rose and then hand out the remaining roses to a friend or neighbor. Pictured, from left - Mayor Christopher C. Johnson and store manager Laurie Savas with Sara Jensen and Katherine McGeoghan. In photo right - Jill Jensen and toddler Daniel Jensen, Feeding Hills resident Joann McGeoghan, and Laurie Savas, store manager. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

#### Legal Memo

by

**Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.**  
546 Springfield St., F.H.  
(413) 786-9454



#### Mom Fired For Refusing To Work Longer Hours

*Needs Of Child Don't Make A Public Policy Claim*

A single mother could not sue her employer for firing her after she refused to work longer hours so that she could care for her young son, the Supreme Judicial Court has ruled.

The plaintiff mother — an at-will employee who was already working from 8:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. — had been told by the defendant employer that she would have to start working until 9:00 or 10:00 p.m. every evening and all day on Saturdays.

She argued that she was wrongfully discharged because working the hours would have caused her to neglect her child in contravention of public policy.

But the Supreme Judicial Court disagreed. "The Commonwealth's broad policies of protecting the family unit and promoting the best interests of the children do not transform the discharge of an at-will employee who cannot work particular hours required by her employer into a discharge in violation of a well-defined public policy," the court held.

In a second opinion the same day, the SJC ruled that public policy is violated when an employer discharges an employee for reporting criminal activity to company officials.

#### At-Will Worker

The rule is that an at-will employee may be terminated at any time for any reason or no reason at all. Liability may be imposed on an employer, however, if an at-will employee is terminated for any reason that violates a clearly established public policy.

The public policy exception provides a cause of action to employees who are terminated for:

- asserting a legal right, such as filing a workers' comp. claim;

### Westfield Bank On Board For Heritage Park



**DAVID SWIRK**, Heritage Park Railroad board member and project coordinator for the railroad, accepts a check for \$1,500 from Westfield Bank Vice-President and Treasurer **Mary Peltier** toward the Railroad's "Back on Track" fund drive. Heritage Park Railroad is a non-profit facility which operates on an intermittent schedule, Mondays through Fridays, running between Westfield and Holyoke.

- doing what the law requires, such as serving on a jury; or
- refusing to disobey the law, such as refusing to commit perjury.

In addition, other types of terminations which would be against public policy are where:

- an at-will employee was fired for cooperating with a law enforcement agency's investigation of his employer;
- an at-will employee was allegedly discharged for enforcing safety laws which were her responsibility to enforce; and

- an at-will employee was terminated for internally reported suspected criminal wrongdoing occurring within the company.

The Court found no public policy to be violated by an employer demanding its adult employee to work long hours.

The Court said, "There is no public policy which mandates that an employer must adjust its expectations, based on a case-by-case analysis of an at-will employee's domestic circumstances, or face liability for having discharged the employee."



## Spotlight On Business - continued...

**“Family Day” Held At Riverside Park**

AGAWAM RESIDENTS and one of Riverside Park's roving mascots enjoy the recent "Family Day. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ENJOYING FRIED DOUGH at Riverside Park's recent "Family Day" included Rachel Cunningham, Lindsay Cunningham, Jessica Bellefleur, and Kelly Berwick. IN PHOTO BELOW, members of the Pereira Family are pictured on the park's Main Street - Marc, Matt, and Donna, and David Marra. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



HEADING INTO THE EVENING PORTION of Riverside Park's Family Day included Melissa Berry, Megan Berry, Matt Dasso, and Matt Geaughan. IN PHOTO BELOW, Merchandising Supervisor Amanda Limbert welcomes family members Jim and Joyce Limbert. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



## Music Was Meant To Be Played

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# For Your Health



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## Hallux Valgus

This condition occurs at the big toe in the foot; the toe deviates to the side toward the other toes. Sometimes the deviation is so great it overlaps the second toe. This may cause bone growth and swelling.

The friction against the shoe can cause the development of a bursa, which frequently becomes tender and inflamed. Interesting to note that this condition is nearly non-existent in non-shoe wearing populations of the world.

Also, hallux valgus was virtually unknown in Japan until the increase in leather shoe wear and decrease use of the traditional open clog. Females outnumber males in this condition nine to one. Perhaps shoe designers should be aware of this fact!

Some recommendations for this condition include:

- Try to avoid wearing shoes whenever possible (Your work may have a problem with this, so perhaps try this at home.)
- Wear low-heeled shoes with adequate room for the toe box.
- Wear sandals with straps that do not fall on the deformity.
- If you tend to pronate, arch supports can be helpful.
- Taping of the joint sometimes helps the region.
- Adjusting the joint and working on the muscles help decrease stress in the region.

Many of my elderly patients suffer with this condition and looking at the patients, most all of them are women. So women, let's prevent problems from happening by taking care of our feet.

High heels may look nice, but they affect not only the feet, but also the back and hips. If you are suffering with this condition, prevent further problems from occurring. Come into our office today!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, 786-4820.

## Head Injury Support At Mercy Hospital

The Head Injury Support Group, sponsored by the Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy Hospital, will meet September 24th, 6:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center.

Persons who have experienced a head injury, their families and friends are invited to attend the free monthly meetings, which are facilitated by rehabilitation professionals.

For more information, call Norma Coughlin, (413) 748-6990.

## Fitness Tips...

# Understanding Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

by Garen Stoehr  
Fitness First's Fitness Director

Many people joke by saying they have Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS), when in fact they are just tired or being lazy. However, this is not very amusing for the thousands of individuals who suffer from this mysterious syndrome.

To understand CFS, we must first look at the symptoms. They include chronic fatigue lasting 30 days or more, sensitivity to bright light, headaches, flu-like symptoms, swollen lymph nodes, and difficulty concentrating.

There is no cure for CFS. Some people's symptoms simply go away, while others suffer with them for years. No one is quite sure of the cause or causes of CFS, so treating the symptoms has become the only option.

Researchers at Johns Hopkins University have developed the latest theories explaining CFS. They found that 22 of 23 CFS patients had a disorder known as Neurally Medicated Hypotension (NMH). The symptoms include dizziness, with prolonged standing and standing up to quickly; both caused by lack of blood to the brain.

These 22 individuals were treated with medication over a six-month period. Nine of the 22 patients reported that their symptoms had disappeared; another seven claimed their symptoms had improved.

How does exercise play a role in the treatment of CFS? Dr. Neil Gordon, author of *Chronic Fatigue: Your Complete Exercise Guide*, views exercise as a patient's medication.

Strength, cardiovascular exercise, and flexibility are all integral parts of a CFS patient's exercise protocol. The catch is that they can not be progressed too quickly.

You are telling someone to exercise that has trouble getting out of bed, so one must be patient when working with this clientele. When working with a CFS patient, remind them "expending energy helps to increase energy in return."

## "National Adult Services Week" Being Celebrated At Westfield Facility

The Weldon Adult Social Day Center, located at 24 Clifton Avenue in Westfield, will celebrate "National Adult Day Services Week" with an open house on Friday, September 19th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy a make-your-own ice cream sundae and tour the center's facilities, including a new enclosed garden area being developed.

"National Adult Day Services Week" (September 14th-20th) was developed to recognize the



## Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph  
S. Schlaffer  
Schlaffer  
Chiropractic Offices  
192 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam

**Question:** Can doctors of chiropractic do anything for children?

**Answer:** Yes! Rarely do childcare books give attention to the vital matter of children's spines and nerve systems. Yet, it is in the first few years of childhood that serious structural problems of the spine have their beginning.

We see subluxations, fixations, spinal curvatures, and other structural distortions beginning in infancy. Before the skeletal/spinal system accommodates itself to these maladies, in early childhood, they can be easily and effectively corrected.

A difficult birth process, during which abnormal stretching and pulling on the head and neck happens, may result in the first misalignment in the spine. The child's growing spine is very susceptible to the bumps and falls he/she experiences during toddlerhood.

The developmental years are filled with sports and other forms of physical activity which often produce misalignment of the spinal column. The result is an impaired nerve system and poor health.

Children suffer from a variety of ailments/symptoms which are treated with medication. Instead, the health problem is a malfunctioning nervous system. The doctor of chiropractic corrects the underlying cause and the symptoms vanish without the need of medications which may have serious, harmful side effects.

Some of the more common ailments responding well to chiropractic care are bed wetting, hyperactivity, spine or back problems including scoliosis and headaches.

The Schlaffer Chiropractic Office at 192 Shoemaker Lane (789-1369) may be contacted for examination or questions.

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## For Your Health - continued...



## Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell  
Registered Dietician

### Is Your Yogurt Really Yogurt?

Make your lunch exciting and nutritious — make it Amaretto Cheesecake, Mint Chocolate Chip Pie, White Chocolate Raspberry, or a Cappuccino. Sounds as if you'll be indulging in a decadent dessert that will pile on the pounds and clog your arteries.

In reality you'll be indulging in low-fat, high-protein, "good-for-you" yogurt! New flavors can attract those who want the best of both worlds — taste and good nutrition.

However, when it comes to nutrition and health benefits, not all brands are created equal. Many of the health benefits come from the live, active cultures used to turn milk into rich, creamy yogurt. An ever-growing body of research shows these live cultures may lower blood cholesterol, cut your risk of colon cancer, boost your immunity, and fight off yeast infections.

And if you're lactose intolerant, yogurt may be the ideal source of calcium for you. Studies at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine find the live active cultures help digestion and reduce the abdominal pain and diarrhea one may normally experience from drinking milk.

While all yogurts are made with live active cultures, some, such as Snackwell's brand, heat the yogurts after the cultures have been added. This action kills the cultures and wipes out the health benefits they usually deliver. Some experts claim that heat-treated yogurt isn't really yogurt at all.

#### Become Cultured!!!

Most people think culture means "enriches," "good taste." To yogurt makers culture is *Lactobacillus bulgaricus*, *Streptococcus thermophilus*, and *Lactobacillus acidophilus*. You don't need to know how to pronounce their names, but you do want to find them "live and active" in your yogurt.

A study published in the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* concluded that *acidophilus* may reduce the activity of enzymes involved in the development of colon cancer. The *International Journal of Immunotherapy* reports that adults who eat yogurt everyday have lower total cholesterol and lower bad LDL cholesterol than adults who don't eat yogurt.

This report also found yogurt eaters experience fewer symptoms of allergies. The lactic acid formed with yogurt may affect harmful bacteria in our gut and as a result boost immunity. Immunity reflects our body's ability to fight off infections and harmful invaders that attack our system.

Parents will children suffering from diarrhea may give them relief by feeding them yogurt instead of milk, according to *The Journal of Pediatric*

*Gastroenterology*. Researchers believe the live, active cultures survive in the digestive tract producing lactic acid that helps soothe some problems associated with the diarrhea. The children in the study who ate yogurt had less diarrhea and tended to gain more weight than the children who drank milk.

Women afflicted with recurring yeast infections may break the cycle by enjoying more yogurt. Studies found that eating one cup of plain yogurt with *Lactobacillus acidophilus* cultures daily cuts the colonization of yeast.

These studies reinforce more good reasons to expose yourself to yogurt's culture regularly. How do you know if your yogurt feeds you good cultures? When you buy yogurt, check to be sure the National Yogurt Association's "Live and Active Culture" seal is displayed on the container. Only brands that meet the Association's required levels of live, active cultures can carry this seal.

#### More Health Bonuses

Yogurt's good qualities and health boosters go far beyond active cultures. Yogurt packs in more protein and calcium than milk. Over half of the children ages two year to 10 years don't meet the recommended intake for calcium each day. Eighty percent of teenage girls and 60 percent of teenage boys fall short in calcium daily. Across all groups, less than 35 percent of Americans take in the amount of calcium they need for optimal health.

In short, Americans are facing a calcium crisis. Many dieters lose muscle mass and lower their metabolism by filling up on pasta and bagels and bypassing high-protein foods. They fear high-protein foods are high in fat.

That's not always the case. Most yogurts contain less than three grams of fat and pack in 20 to 25 percent of protein needs per serving. Experts recommend two to four servings of foods in the milk group, including yogurt, each day.

One cup of plain yogurt supplies more potassium than a banana. Potassium may help to control blood pressure. Thirty percent of adults in the United States wrestle with high blood pressure. Johns Hopkins University and the National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute reviewed 30 studies on potassium and high blood pressure. They concluded that people who have high blood pressure can lower it by eating more potassium-rich foods.

In fact, adequate potassium may prevent the development of high blood pressure in the first place. The calcium in yogurt provides additional protection against high blood pressure, according to *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. Even more good news for your heart comes from the University of Minnesota. Researchers found calcium reduced the bad LDL cholesterol and increased the good HDL cholesterol in patients with moderately high cholesterol.

In third grade, we all learned that calcium helps to build strong bones. Today several well-controlled studies show you can cut your risk of the crippling brittle bone disease, osteoporosis. Simply feed your bones adequate calcium. Osteoporosis affects 20 million Americans. Twenty percent are men. One out of three women over age 65 will suffer from osteoporosis.

Mom always said, "Drink your milk." As researchers learn more and more about the benefits of culturing milk into yogurt, mothers of the 90's will change that to, "Eat your yogurt."

## Dietician Nancy Dell & Chef Mark Tansey Get Cooking At BIG E

Registered Dietician Nancy Dell and Chef Mark Tansey, both Agawam residents, will bring a bit of local flavor to The Big E's all-new Harvest New England Food Demonstration Kitchen, sponsored by Bay State Gas Co., when they make special appearances at the state-of-the-art kitchen in the New England Center during the fair.

Nancy Dell, who appears in the nutrition news segment, "Food For Thought," six times a week on WWLP TV-22, will discuss the dietary secrets to remaining youthful in a presentation titled "Forever Young: Your Anti-Aging Recipe" on Tuesday, September 23rd, at 6:30 p.m.

Dell, who has received the "Excellence in Nutrition Education Award" from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for her television work, also provides nutrition education through corporate wellness programs and private counseling. In addition, she has served as nutrition spokesperson for Yoplait Yogurt and Guiltless Gourmet Tortilla Chips.

Mark Tansey, owner of the Feeding Hills restaurant Partners, will also appear at the kitchen on Agawam Day, September 24th, at The Big E. His program, "Vegetable Medley with Chef Tansey," will take place at 11:00 and 1:30 p.m.

Tansey is chef, owner, and operator of Partners, a popular family restaurant serving breakfast and lunch that has been an Agawam establishment for 14 years. Tansey, who has worked in the food industry for over two decades, also serves as host of TV's "Continental Cuisine" on the Valley Channel 9 in Western Massachusetts.

The Big E's Harvest New England Kitchen is a fully-equipped demonstration kitchen, courtesy of A. Boilard and Sons and Salemi Appliance Service, that was specially constructed for the fair and celebrates the bounty of New England food and cooki with seminars, cooking demonstrations, and tastings showcasing regional products.

The World's Only Big E runs through September 28th in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

## Cold, Flu, Pneumonia To Be Discussed At Mercy Hospital

Recognizing the difference between a cold, the flu, and pneumonia will be the topic of the next meeting of Mercy Hospital's Pulmonary Support Group, September 24th, 1:00 p.m., in the Deliso Conference Center.

The free group is co-sponsored by the Lung Association, and is designed for those who feel physically or emotionally limited by breathing problems such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema.

Meetings offer individuals, their families, and friends the opportunity to share problems and solutions. An informal social period with refreshments is also part of each session.

For more information, call over to Mercy Hospitals' Cardiopulmonary/Neurology Services at (413) 748-9610.

**PLEASE REMEMBER** we appreciate those who bring in their copy on Monday.



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*Attorney at Law*



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# Arts

## West Side Group Opening Production Of A Few Good Men

The Theater Project will open its first full season with Aaron Sorkin's military drama "A Few Good Men" September 25th through October 18th, according to director Danny Eaton.

Appearing in the production will be Doug Major as Kaffee, Stacy Ashley as Jo, and Steve Henderson as Jesse. Other local actors in the production will be Frank Aronson, Shaun Barry, David Cavanaugh, Craig Dahlquist, Keller Eaton, Stuart Gamble, Dan Jacobson, Bob Kay, Woody McLoyd, and Bruce Stebbins. Jennifer Brown will stage manage the production, with assistance from Nancy Kotzen.

The play, which was developed into a hit film starring Tom Cruise and Demi Moore, is the first of several productions to be staged by the Theater Project at West Springfield's Majestic Theater. Other works will include "The Ransom of Red Chief" (December 4-28, 1997), "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" (February 19-March 14, 1998), and an encore presentation of "Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story" (April 2-May 9, 1998).

Eaton is pleased to lead off the 1997-1998 season with the tense drama that focuses on the trial of two Marines charged with the death of a fellow Marine in Cuba. "It's a damn good play," he says. "Having spent five years in the Marines myself, I recognize those characters and what drives them, whether they're misguided or not."

"A Few Good Men" is the second production the Theater Project has presented in its new permanent site. Immediately following the renovation of the long-abandoned Majestic Theater last spring, the Theater Project, which Eaton founded, launched "Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story" to rave reviews and an extended run. A number of Holly historians, including his widow, Maria Elena, attended and approved of the show.

Tickets for "A Few Good Men" range from \$12.50 to \$17.50 depending on the time of performance, and can be purchased by calling the box office at (413) 747-7797. Discounts are available for students, seniors, and groups. In addition, season subscriptions for the Theater Project are currently available by calling the box office.

## StageWest To Begin 1997-1998 Season With Five Guys Named Moe

This week, StageWest will begin its 1997/98 unprecedented nine-play subscription season with Clarke Peter's foot-stomping, aisle-dancing, and rafter-raising musical "Five Guys Named Moe," featuring the music of jazz saxophone great Louis Jordan.

A must-see for jazz enthusiasts as well as anybody who enjoys the jump and bounce of the golden era of Cab Calloway, Louis Armstrong, and Ella Fitzgerald, "Five Guys Named Moe" is the first of two musicals to be presented by Springfield's resident professional theatre for its 31st anniversary. An incredible array of award-winning comedies, dramas, and thrillers will fill out a season that is already promising to be one of the most crowd-pleasing years in the theatre's history.

His hit singles the likes of *Saturday Night Fish Fry*, *Caldonia*, *Let the Good Times Roll*, and *Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby?* (many of which are featured in "Five Guys Named Moe") crossed over all racial barriers and are still popular today across America and internationally.

"Five Guys Named Moe" will be directed and choreographed by Julia Lema, a native New Yorker and three-time veteran of StageWest. Most recently, audiences delighted in Ms. Lema's performing versatility, as she portrayed stunning renditions of Aretha Franklin, Diana Ross, and Annette Funicello (among others) in last season's musical finale "Beehive."

Following previews on Wednesday, September 17th, and Thursday, September 18th, "Five Guys Named Moe," StageWest's jazzy season opener, opens on Friday, September 19th, and will run through Sunday, October 19th, at the S. Prestley Blake Theatre.

Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday evenings, and at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings. Matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. will be held on Wednesday, September 24th; Saturday, October 11th; and on Sundays, September 21st, 28th, and October 5th, 12th, and 19th.

Tickets are available by phone, (413) 781-2340, or by visiting the StageWest box office directly, Tuesday through Sunday from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. Group rates are available by calling the above number.

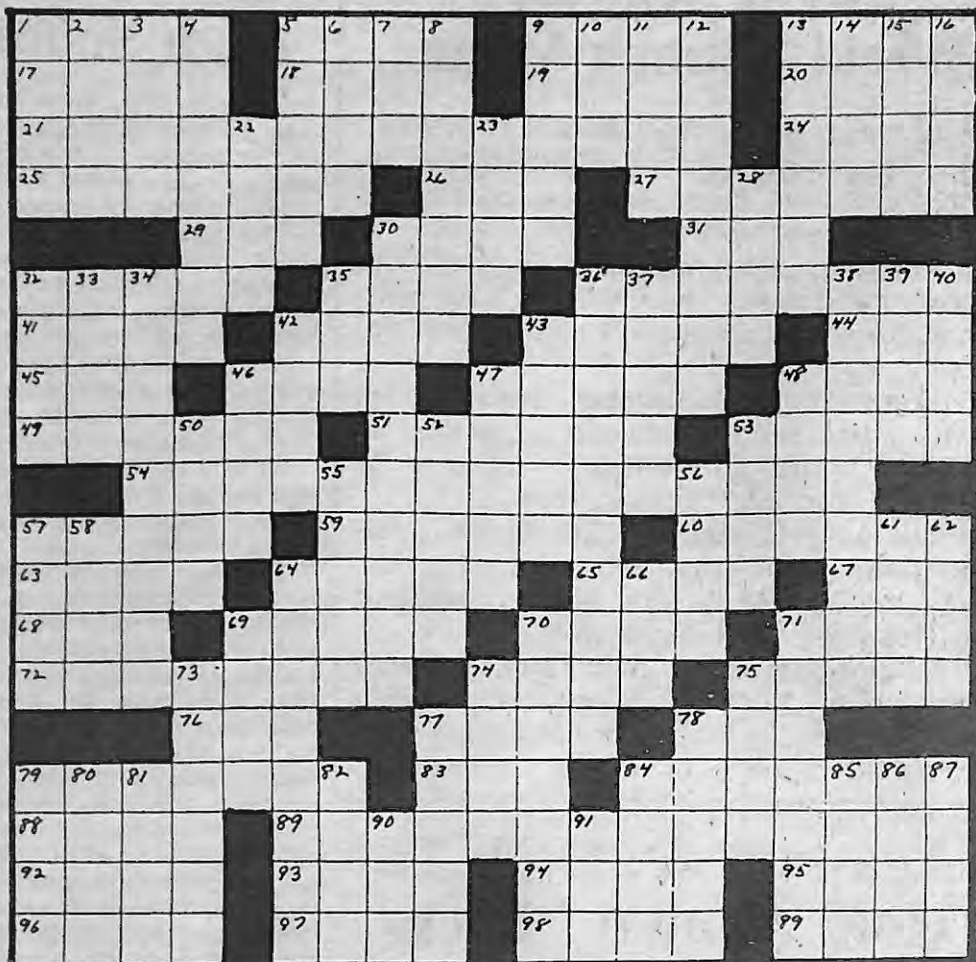
### ACROSS

- 1 Leo's cry
- 5 Wits
- 9 "— the Wild Wind"
- 13 Shipping instructions
- 17 Author Best
- 18 Russian mountain range
- 19 Movie terrier
- 20 T.V.'s Carter
- 21 Words to a quitter
- 24 Oasis fruit
- 25 Certain kicks
- 26 One of the Stooges
- 27 Raged
- 29 "Walking on —"
- 30 Fix
- 31 "We — not amused"
- 32 Muse of poetry
- 35 Remove rind
- 36 Strutting dance
- 41 Large in girth
- 42 Caesar and Luckman
- 43 Actress Normand
- 44 Sandra or Ruby
- 45 Flightless bird
- 46 Former ruler of Iran
- 47 Apple throwaways
- 48 Goose liver paste
- 49 Tell
- 51 Sailor off duty
- 53 Pertaining to the Pope
- 54 Disputers' words
- 57 Gag teller's query
- 59 "On the — where you live"
- 60 Monied property
- 63 Writer Kazan
- 64 Cookout favorite
- 65 Arcade blunder
- 67 "— jour"
- 68 Dead-End Kid
- 69 Gorcey
- 69 Tale
- 70 Funny Sahl
- 71 Kane's Rosebud
- 72 One-time Washington Nine
- 74 "— Fear" (movie)
- 75 Molts
- 76 No (slang)
- 77 Presses for money
- 78 Kanga follower
- 79 Aquatic rodent
- 83 "Not — rule"
- 84 Iron collar
- 88 Exam type
- 89 Mother's words
- 92 Clark Kent's love
- 93 Staff member
- 94 Western lawman
- 95 Singer James
- 96 BPOE members
- 97 French city
- 98 French seasons
- 99 Writer Coward

### DOWN

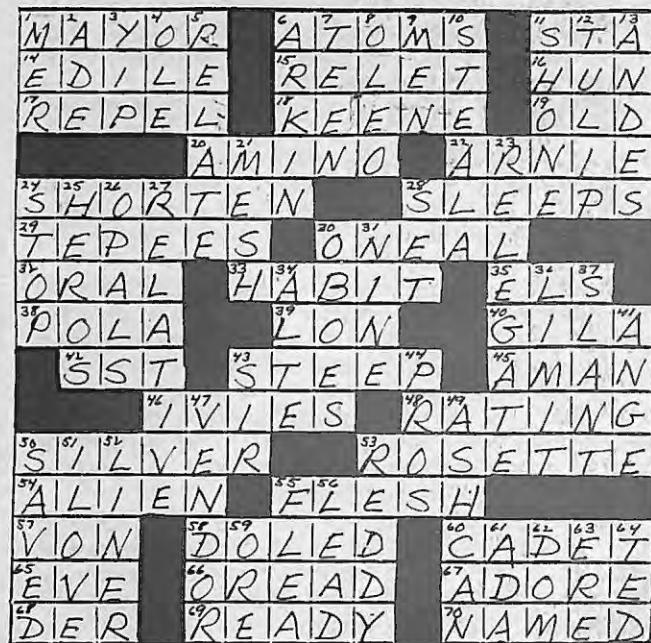
- 1 San —, Italy
- 2 Norse god
- 3 Blyth and Jillian
- 4 Spread
- 5 Hesitate
- 6 Pub drinks
- 7 Needlefish
- 8 Boils gently
- 9 Graded
- 10 Estimate for short
- 11 Sweetsop
- 12 Avails of food
- 13 Buffoon (with merry)
- 14 Coal locale
- 15 "Der —"
- 16 Begged
- 22 Evil in Roma
- 23 Super another way
- 28 Region of the USSR

## MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



- 30 Wonderland rabbit's namesakes
- 32 Pitcher
- 33 Frost
- 34 Flattery
- 35 Zadora
- 36 Redheads
- 37 "Have — with" (argue)
- 38 Able to change
- 39 "— smile be your..."
- 40 Keep it even
- 42 Noah's eldest
- 43 Actor Roger
- 46 RBI or ERA
- 47 Impudence (colloq.)
- 48 Agreement
- 50 Continent
- 52 Lost Dog
- 53 Opposite of present
- 55 Famous fur trader
- 56 Pool table cover
- 57 Sets
- 58 Robert —
- 61 "— the mark"
- 62 "All's Well That — Well"
- 64 Illegal passenger
- 66 Dander
- 69 Luminary
- 70 Sea cow
- 71 Raise a hem
- 73 Often sprained items
- 74 Swear (slang)
- 75 Short-billed wader
- 77 Office must
- 78 Highway sections
- 79 Lawn destroyer
- 80 Russian range
- 81 Went down
- 82 "— is my desire"
- 84 Actor Richard
- 85 Conductor Klemperer
- 86 "— a-tete"
- 87 Pertaining to a notable time
- 90 Summer cooler
- 91 Topper

### Last Week's Solution...



## Cultural Council Preparing For Start Of First Friday Series

The Agawam Cultural Council will again present their "First Friday" series. Programs are at the Agawam Public Library at 7:30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month, with the exception of December (Baptist Church, Main Street) and March (Agawam Senior Center).

All programs are free to the public. On October 3rd, a lecture on Civil War history will be presented by Guy Morin. He will be in the costume of a Civil War soldier and will speak about the life of a Union soldier, a brief history of his Unit (28th Massachusetts Volunteers, 1861-1865), and will also provide information on the time period.

The soldier which Mr. Morin portrays is a 15-year veteran. He discusses famous battles such as Gettysburg and Spotsylvania. His uniform is custom-made and appears authentic. He does carry an authentic sword of the time.

There will be a question and answer period following the lecture.

The program for the full series will be available at the Agawam Public Library after September 25th.

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## Agawam Library To Host "Drop-In Leaf Crafts"

The Agawam Public Library will offer a selection of leaf art activities on Saturday, September 27th, between 12:00 noon and 3:00 p.m.

Children ages three and up are encouraged to sign up for this program. Materials may be picked up at the desk when books are checked out.

Register by calling 789-1550, or visiting the library at 750 Cooper Street, Agawam.





## Education

### Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

**Monday, September 22nd:** Oven-baked chicken nuggets, honey or dipping sauce, steamed rice, diced carrots, bread and butter, pineapple tidbits, milk.

**Tuesday, September 23rd:** Toasted pepperoni and cheese sandwich in a roll with tomato sauce, seasoned niblet corn, apple crisp, milk.

**Wednesday, September 24th:** Rotini with meatsauce, seasoned green beans, Italian bread and butter, fruit cup or orange jello with topping, milk.

**Thursday, September 25th:** Fresh roasted turkey with gravy, whipped potatoes, seasoned diced carrots, wheat bread and butter, fresh Mac apple, milk.

**Friday, September 26th:** Taco boat with cheese topping, seasoned niblet corn, salsa sauce, fruit cup or ice cream cup, milk.

### Agawam Jr. High To Hold Annual "Back-To-School Night"

Agawam Junior High School Principal Kevin C. Littlefield has announced that a "Back-To-School Night" will be conducted for parents on Monday, September 22nd, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Parents are advised to meet in the school auditorium at 6:30 p.m., where the evening's format will be explained and directions will be given to homerooms. At 7:00 p.m., parents of seventh and eighth grade students will follow their child's daily schedule and meet with subject teachers in a classroom setting.

Mr. Littlefield suggests that parents bring their child's agenda/planner with them to "Back-To-School Night," since its usage will be reviewed and it contains their child's daily class schedule.

He explains that teacher presentations will highlight exactly what students have been told during their first class meetings. Included will be course expectations, homework, testing, project work, discipline, and attendance.

Mr. Littlefield points out that the brief meeting time will not allow parents to discuss personal aspects of their child's education with teachers. Conference nights for that purpose have been scheduled in the near future.

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### Attention — Junior High School Parents!

Currently the Junior High School Improvement Council is looking for parents to fill **two vacancies** on the council for the 1997-1998 school year. The council meets in the evening each month beginning in October for approximately one to 1½ hours.

This year's council will focus its efforts on three primary goals, including:

(a) Increasing student motivation and desire to learn through providing regular and frequent recognition of student achievement;

(b) Ensuring that the school community makes instructional effectiveness the highest priority in the school whether by application of technology or access to state-of-the-art learning; and...

(c) Improving communication between home and school, with a view toward increasing parental involvement and accountability for the instructional program.

Several strategies related to these goals are already in progress; e.g., student involvement in the maintenance of the Junior High School's Website, re-establishment of after-school intramural sports, expansion of the current honors recognition to include a "Renaissance Program," and establishment of a school newspaper.

If you are interested in participating in this important aspect of site-based management as it evolves under Educational Reform, PLEASE contact Principal Kevin Littlefield at 821-0542 to submit names or to ask questions about the council.

Election to the council will be conducted during the September 29th meeting of the PTO, which meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Junior High School Cafeteria.

### AHS Band Parents To Provide Shuttle Parking To Big E

Agawam residents, park your car at the high school during the weekends of the Big E, and take the PVTa shuttle bus to the fair.

The High School Band Parents Association will once again sponsor shuttle parking at the AHS parking lot. The cost to park your car for the day is \$4. On sale at the parking lot will be Big E tickets: the \$10 ticket includes the round-trip shuttle fare.

The shuttle bus is scheduled to leave the AHS parking lot at 15 minutes past the hour, starting at 9:15 a.m. The last bus leaves the Big E grounds at 10:30 p.m. All proceeds from the parking will go to support the band.

Don't hassle the Big E traffic! You don't have to hike long distances. Park at AHS, let the shuttle take you to the gate, and support the band.

Parking is only available during the three Big E weekends: September 20th-21st, and September 27th-28th.

*Best local news...*

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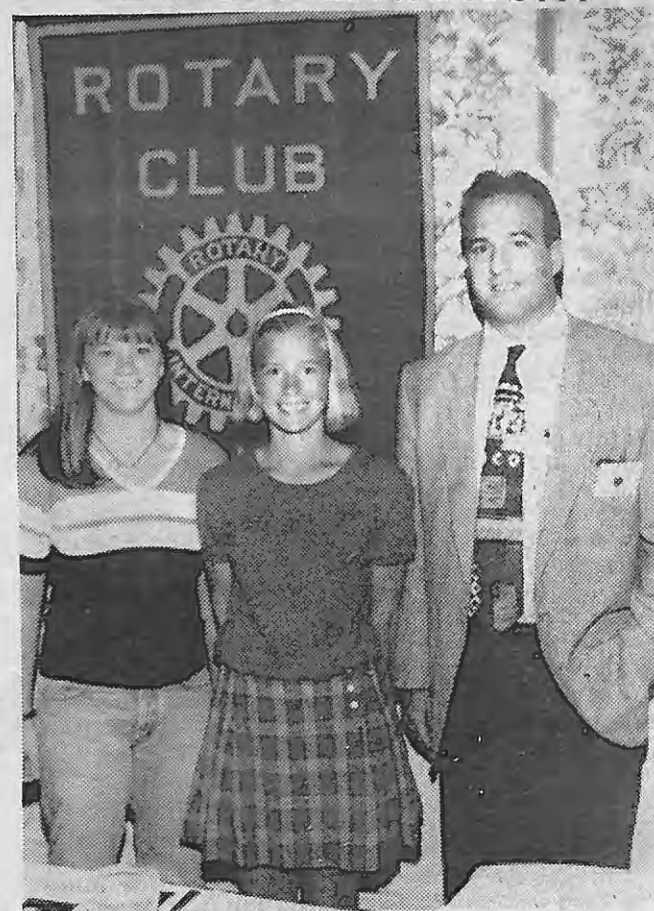
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### Future Leaders...



**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** Michelle Beaudette (left) and Jennifer McGuire were sponsored by the Agawam Rotary Club to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Association Conference where they developed leadership and team membership skills. Rotary President Timothy Ayre is also pictured. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

### "Senior Night" Slated At Agawam High On Monday, Sept. 29th

Agawam High School seniors and parents are invited to "Senior Night" to be held in the High School cafeteria on Monday, September 29th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Post high school planning, college applications, and job search will be among the topics discussed.

## Happy 16th J.L.



Love,  
M.E.





## AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen  
Guidance Coordinator  
AHS Guidance Dept.

### Have You Hugged Your Child Today?

Often, I am behind a car that has a bumper sticker that relates the above message. Each time, it gives me pause and I begin to muse just how important it is to show your child affection, to let him/her know not just with words how special he/she is to you.

I still remember the time a young man had come into my office and was very upset with his father. It seems they just never got along. Dad had remarried, had children with his new wife, and this boy felt slighted, unwanted, and hurt.

Yet, did Dad know this? Had the son shared his feelings with Dad? Through some probing, I learned that Dad did not really know his feelings; as a matter of fact, both never communicated that much.

A telephone call was made. Dad came into my office the next morning. The son was there, too. Always noticing body language, I was struck by theirs. Dad took a chair and moved it to one side of my office; his son took a chair and moved it to the other side. There they sat, separated like two islands. We spoke for a while, and I elicited responses from each one.

Finally, noticing the lack of eye contact that each had for the other, I asked the young man, "Does Dad ever hug you? Does he ever put his arms around you and tell you how much you mean to him?" He squirmed in his chair, shook his leg, put his head down, and then I noticed his shoulders were shaking. With tears streaming down his face, he looked up at me and quietly said, "No."

I glanced at Dad, who had begun fidgeting and was clearly agitated. He looked at me with pain on his face and said, "I had no idea he was feeling this way. I mean I do hug the girls, but my folks never hugged me, just my sisters, so I guess I just never thought about hugging him. I'm sorry." I waited, glued in my seat.

Dad looked at his son; his son looked at him. Dad slowly arose from his chair, walked over to his son, and put his arms around his son. He held him tightly and the son returned the hug. Both had tears in their eyes, but they were tears from feeling good.

After that meeting, I am happy to say, things dramatically improved. The boy realized that Dad loved him as well as his half-sisters, although he had never visibly shown it. Both learned how important it is to communicate feelings, to show how you feel. Often, a good hug is worth a thousand words.

Have YOU hugged your child today? Dad and his son did, and what a difference it has made!

This is such a difficult time for seniors and their parents. I mean the seniors are almost at the end of their high school career and you, parents, are some days at the end of your patience dealing with them! Their comfort zone that they inhabited for almost four years is about to end and I gotta tell you, even if they don't want to admit it, it's a little scary.

For you parents, too, it's a little scary. Now, your kids are really flying the nest. You can't deny it much longer; they will soon be out on their own. Don't be afraid to discuss your feelings with them. By doing this, you will open the door for them to talk to you.

We share your concerns. We know how senior year can be ... a mixture of fun, excitement, uncertainty, and stress. So, we compiled a handbook to help guide parents and seniors through the college admissions process and the job search process.

In addition, we have scheduled a meeting for seniors and their parents on Monday evening, September 29th, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the high school cafeteria. Bring pencils and your concerns! We will be on hand to help you map out the year and make this senior year an enjoyable experience.

Please plan to attend. If you cannot come, send your senior. Handbooks and other important information will be distributed that night. We will briefly talk about financial aid and you will realize that we do have an expert who will be here on December 8th to help you with your financial planning. He is Dr. Lee Sirois, head of financial aid at American International College and will address your concerns.

Don't panic. You do not have to address the financial aid issue until then and will still have plenty of time to reap benefits.

We are looking forward to seeing you on September 29th. Circle your calendars now!

#### GUIDANCE BULLETIN

**COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES:** If you are interested in meeting with any of the following college representatives, you should sign up at least a day in advance in the guidance office.

**September 22nd:** Northeastern University, 8:00; Florida Southern College, 8:30; Lasell College, 12:30.

**September 23rd:** Plymouth State College, 9:15; Ithaca College, 1:00; State Univ. of New York at Albany, 8:30.

**September 24th:** Wentworth Institute of Technology, 8:00; Westfield State College, 8:30.

**September 25th:** Trinity College, 9:00; Mt. Saint Mary's, 12:30; Boston University, 12:00.

**September 29th:** STCC, 10:15; Sacred Heart University, 12:15.

**September 30th:** Bryant College, 10:30.

**COLLEGE FAIR:** Western New England College will again be hosting a College Fair for interested college-bound students and their parents. The fair will be held Wednesday, September 24th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Over 200 colleges and universities will be represented. This will give students an opportunity to collect informational materials and talk with admissions professionals. For more information, 782-1321.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** See your counselor for more information and/or an application.

**Coca-Cola Scholars Program:** This program was established to identify and reward 150 outstanding high school seniors from across the country. Selection of Coca-Cola Scholars is based on a number of factors, with special emphasis on each individual's character, personal merit, and background. Merit is demonstrated in a number of ways: leadership in school, civic, and other extra-curricular activities, academic achievement, and motivation to serve and succeed in all endeavors. This is a very competitive program. Deadline: October 31, 1997.

**Eyes on the Prize Youth Award:** This award recognizes an individual who demonstrates peer leadership, academic achievement, and community spirit. The competition is open to high school seniors only. To apply, students must submit a high school transcript, two letters of recommendation, and a 500-word essay. Deadline: October 10, 1997.

## Cub Scout Pack 77 Seeking New Members

Cub Scout Pack 77, sponsored by St. John's Church on Main Street in Agawam, is still actively recruiting new members.

First, second, third, fourth, and fifth graders are welcome. Den meetings are held three times a month where the scouts complete the requirements to earn their activity badges, pins, and awards.

Pack meetings are held once a month at St. John's Parish Center, where all scouts and their parents get together to receive their awards and have fun. We also have camping trips in summer and winter, hikes, Scout Night at the Falcons, Pinewood Derby, Blue & Gold Banquet, Fundraising Bottle Drives, and other events.

Please come to our first Pack meeting for the 1997-98 scout year on Thursday, September 25th at 6:30 p.m. Meetings last approximately an hour. Come and see what we're all about, and sign up to join Pack 77.

We encourage parents to volunteer in den leadership, organizing activities, and as committee members.

For more information, contact Jim Chaban, Cubmaster, at 786-3561 or Jay Blood, Assistant Cubmaster at 786-5103.



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**Filene's Music Scholarship:** This scholarship recognizes outstanding music students who plan to attend Skidmore College.

**Culinary Institute of America Cream of the Crop Scholarship:** Open to high school seniors who are in the top five percent of the class and plan to attend the C.I.A.

**Ervin Scholars Program:** Open to outstanding African-American students who plan to attend Washington University.

**University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing SELF Program:** Available to nursing students who attend Penn.

**OPEN HOUSES:** For more information on any of the following open houses, see your counselor.

Cathedral High School will host a College Night on Wednesday evening, October 1, 1997 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Representatives from over 150 colleges will be present to speak with interested students and their parents. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Trinity College of Hartford, CT, will sponsor a Preview Weekend, a visitation program for students of color. It will be held November 13th-15th.

Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges, Duke University, Georgetown University, and the University of Pennsylvania will be hosting a Student-Parent Information Session at the Springfield Marriott Hotel on Wednesday, September 24th, at 7:30 p.m. Interested students and parents are welcome to attend.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy will be holding an Open House on Saturday, September 20th, and Saturday, November 1st. Tours and Information Sessions will be conducted.

University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing will host an Information Session on Tuesday, September 23rd, from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Worcester.

New Hampshire College — Sunday, October 5th, or Sunday, November 9th.

Regis College — Sunday, October 26th, or Sunday-Monday (Overnight), November 9th and 10th.

**SAT Registration:** Seniors who plan to take the October SAT I or II had to register by September 9th. Registration for the November test must be sent by September 26th.

## Kristine Modzelesky Begins 1st Year Study At Hamilton College

Kristine Modzelesky, the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. James P. Modzelesky of Marla Place in Feeding Hills, recently began studies as a first-year student at Hamilton College.

A graduate of Suffield Academy, Modzelesky was selected from a record number 4,107 applications to the college, and joins a class of 457. For the first time since joining with all-female Kirkland College in 1978, Hamilton's first-year class contains more women than men.

An independent, highly selective, liberal arts college, Hamilton was founded in 1812 and is today among the oldest colleges in the U.S. It is named for Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the treasury, and features a strong curriculum in the humanities, the arts, the natural sciences, and the social sciences.

Approximately 1,650 students are enrolled at Hamilton.

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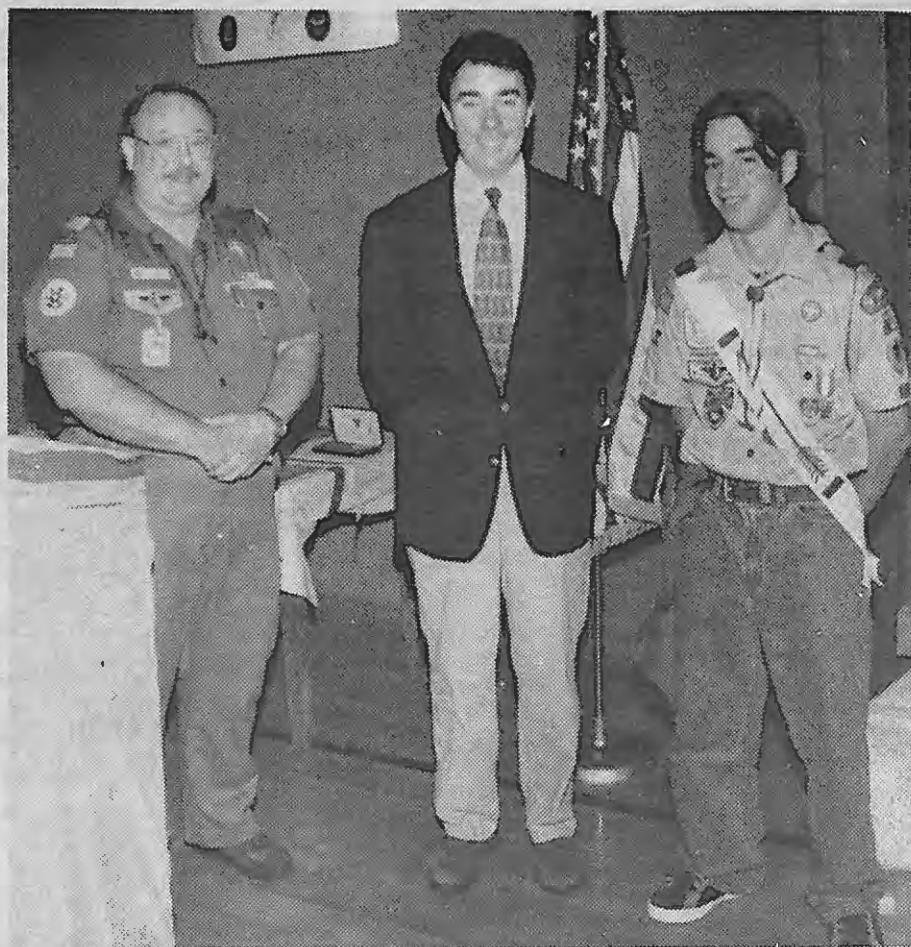
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**AT THE EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY** at the Springfield Turnverein on September 13th, Mike Hogan received his Eagle Badge. **IN LEFT PHOTO:** Ken Connor, Pioneer Trail executive; Mike Hogan, new Eagle Scout; Christopher C. Johnson, mayor; and Debra & Cliff Hogan, Mike's parents. **IN RIGHT PHOTO:** Ken Connor and State Rep. Daniel Keenan (who presented an official citation from the state to Mike) congratulate the new Eagle Scout. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

## Local Scouts Receive Eagle Badge During Special Ceremonies

Michael Hogan of Boy Scout Troop 78 of the Springfield Turnverein in Agawam received his Eagle Badge during a banquet held in his honor at the Turnverein on Saturday evening, September 13th. Members of the troop, as well as family and friends, attended. The honored guests included Mayor Christopher Johnson and State Representative Dan Keenan.

Earning the Eagle Badge requires advancement through the various scout ranks. Each requires certain technical skills, leadership, and involvement in service projects. Along with that, the Eagle Badge requires the scout to develop and lead his own community-oriented service project, as well as earning 21 merit badges.

Mike collected clothing and food for needy people for his project. He completed it on May 3rd when he and his fellow scouts delivered the clothing to the People's Center in Springfield and food and cash donations to South Church on Maple Street, where they assisted Loaves & Fishes with cooking a meal for the homeless.

During the ceremony, Mike received letters from Congress, the Senate, the Governor's office, and the President of the United States. A reception and dinner followed the ceremony, and a good time was had by all who attended.

Mike is one of two scouts from Troop 78 to receive his Eagle Badge in recent weeks. On August 24th, an Eagle Banquet was held for Brian Landry at St. John the Evangelist Church.



**SCOUT BRIAN LANDRY** receives his Eagle Badge from Troop 78 Scoutmaster Raymond LaBorde as his proud parents, Roger & Sue Landry, look on. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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## Ag. Parks Dept. Has Positions Available For Winter Programs

The Town of Agawam Parks and Recreation Department is now accepting applications for the following positions: water safety instructor; assistant swim team coach; and basketball officials.

Applicants must be 16 years or older to be eligible for employment. Salary ranges dependent upon position and experience.

Applications are available at the Recreation Office, 760 Cooper St., Agawam. For more information, call the Agawam Recreation Department at 821-0514.

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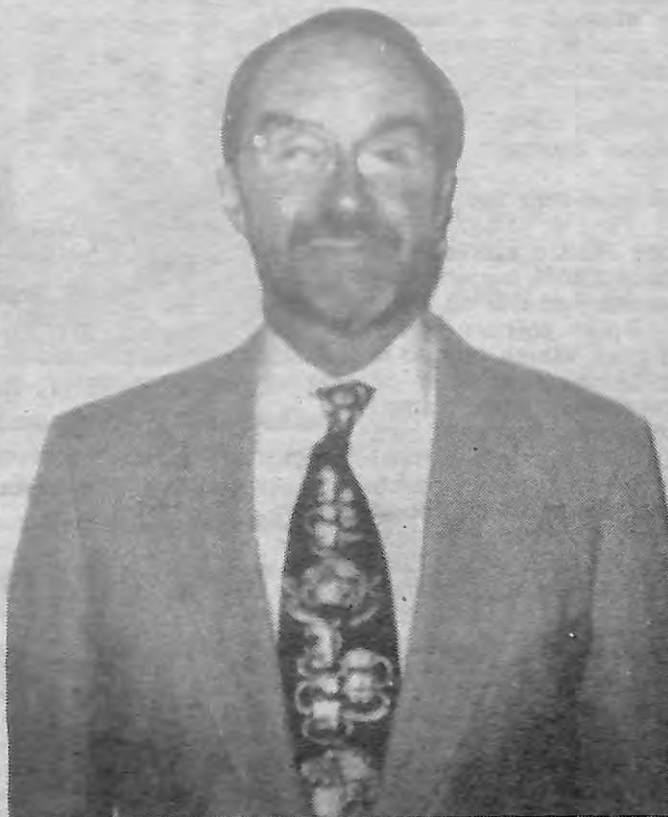
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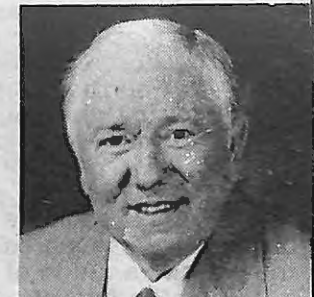
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## Sports

# Blue Devils Use Steady Offense To Take Out AHS In Opener

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Several things became obvious in the Agawam High football Brownies' opening night, 19-6 loss to visiting Northampton.

First, sophomore quarterback Brian St. Jean (14-40, 185 yards, 1 TD, two interceptions, 13.2 yards per throw) does indeed have the makings to fulfill the faith Coach Dean Vecchiarelli had in him when he named the kid as his starting signal caller.

Last year's 15 TD passer, Eric Melbourne, is now a wideout.

Second, junior running back Brian Gallagher (16 carries, 65 yards, 4.0 ypc, two receptions/22 yards) demonstrated to the many faithful on hand that he has the ability to step into the cleats of recent Brownie running stars like Jason Votzak and Jeff Blews.

And last, but definitely not least, the team evolved in this game, from one a little unsure in the first half to a squad that began to find its way in the second 24 minutes.

Graduation had taken a big bite out of both teams. Agawam lost 12 starters to the sheepskin. The Blue Devils, the Division I runners-up in 1996, saw 12 key kids hit the bricks. So this game, in a sense, was a Brave New World for all involved.

It was obvious the moment the Blue Devils rumbled onto the field for their warm-ups on this balmy night that not only had they brought the football team, but several of the area's condominiums had also been included on their roster.

They came in the form of Marty Weiman (6'6", 260), Jason Diemano (6', 280), and the whopper of all whoppers, Chris Denno (6'4", 310). It was truly a trio whose bulk alone would have coaxed a smile on the face of Bill Parcells. When they ran in unison, you could almost feel the press box rock. They would also prove to be a load the much smaller Agawam offensive and defensive lines would have to contend with all evening long.

### AHS Wins The Toss...

Agawam won the toss, affording the faithful an early look at the '97 Brownie offense. Gallagher, unknown to most observers, was playing with a heavily wrapped left shoulder that he injured in pre-season practice. In the opening series, he produced runs of eight and five yards. A three-yard effort was nullified on a penalty. St. Jean passed for 12 to tight end Mark Pedraza. But the drive, which started from their 35, fizzled out at the Northampton 46, forcing a punt.

The ensuing defensive series saw the Brownies stop 'Hamp on three plays, which included their first sack of the season. Gallagher, on a blitz from his linebacker spot, was the sacker. Devil quarterback Tom Ellerbrook was the sackee.

The Brownies got the ball on their own 40. Using play action, St. Jean hit Melbourne for 12 yards and Pedraza for six. Gallagher had four yards on two carries. It all helped move the ball to the Blue Devil 39. On fourth and one, however, they were forced to punt.

The Blue Devils were now at their own 15-yard line with 4:38 to go in the first quarter. Mixing up a good brew whose ingredients included a pinch of the pass and a ration of run, Ellerbrook marched his club to the Agawam 29.

Facing third and four, Ellerbrook faded back and sold the Brownie secondary on a pump fake. He was looking at receiver Tim Satkowski all the way. Satkowski, on a hook and go, went. The pass was a mite short, allowing the Brownie defenders to catch up. But Satkowski, who would have a fine night, wrestled the ball away from his cover man for the score. A shanked extra point saw the Blue Devils up 6-0 with 31 seconds left in the quarter.

Agawam bogged down on its next possession. A punt put Northampton in business at its own 35. A 45-yard run on first and 10 by Craig Fydenkevez brought them to the Brownie 30. They worked the ball down to the three and scored on a Jason Walsh run to go up 12-0, with 5:05 in the half. The kick failed. 'Hamp now led, 12-0. A key facemask

penalty against AHS on a fourth down stop proved to be a key moment on the drive and in the game.

The Brownies got the kickoff. Mike Wing took it at his own 15 and squirted 16 yards to the Agawam 31. The Agawam offense started to jet-tison the butterflies at that point. St. Jean completed passes of 22 yards to Gallagher out of the backfield and 17 and eight to Pedraza.

### An "Encouraging" Pass To Gallagher...

The pass to Gallagher out of the backfield was particularly encouraging for the faithful. It had been a while since a Brownie back had been able to, or be even called upon to, catch a football. It looked as if another possible weapon had been added to the arsenal.

That fact prompted Vecchiarelli to comment later, "We'll work on getting the ball to him more through the air." Gallagher also contributed with a run of 16 yards. With 1:24 left in the half, Agawam found itself with a second down on the Blue Devil three. Gallagher slipped on a sweep left. St. Jean's subsequent pass fell incomplete, thus stopping a 12-play, four-minute, 20-second drive.

"We missed some opportunities early," Vec admitted. Mark this as a crucial moment in this game as well.

Northampton took a 12-0 lead into the locker room.

Brownie place kicker Tony Planzo started out the second half with a 50-yard kickoff, burying the Devils deep in their own territory at the 10. Northampton then went on a 12-play sojourn of its own. Ninety yards and 3:35 later, Walsh lugged it over from the three for the Devils' third score of the game. A good conversion made it 19-0, 'Hamp.

The teams traded possessions. Agawam had the ball on its own 29 with 3:39 left in the third quarter. Grimly, they began another march towards touchdown history. Pass plays of 15 and 13 yards to Melbourne, plus seven yards on two carries by fullback Vinnie Curto, brought the ball to the Northampton 38. A personal foul on the Brownies saw the ball spotted back on their 48.

They were faced with a second and 15 when St. Jean found Mike Wing alone in the seam of the right zone, at the Blue Devil 40. The pass was right on and Wing was on his way, outrunning the safeties for a 53-yard score. The two-point conversion went south. But Agawam was on the board, 19-6.

Though there would be no more scoring, Agawam tried mightily to do it again. They attempted an onside kick after the touchdown, but came up short. Their defense, led by Darrell Malachowski, George Graves, Andy St. Jean, and Ian Lane, sucked it up and played the Devils even the rest of the way.

Agawam's final possession saw it go to the air. Northampton went into a prevent defense and went after the ball. Their defensive line, led by Weiman and Denno (two of the behemoths), teed off, constantly putting St. Jean under the gun.

Northampton ran out the final minute of play to grab the win.

Agawam will host Chicopee this Friday evening, September 19th, at 7:00 p.m.

### AGAWAM STATS:

Passing: St. Jean — 40 attempts, 14 completions, 185 yards, one TD, two int., 13.2 yards per throw.

Rushing: Gallagher — 16-65, 4.0; Curto — 3-8, 2.6.

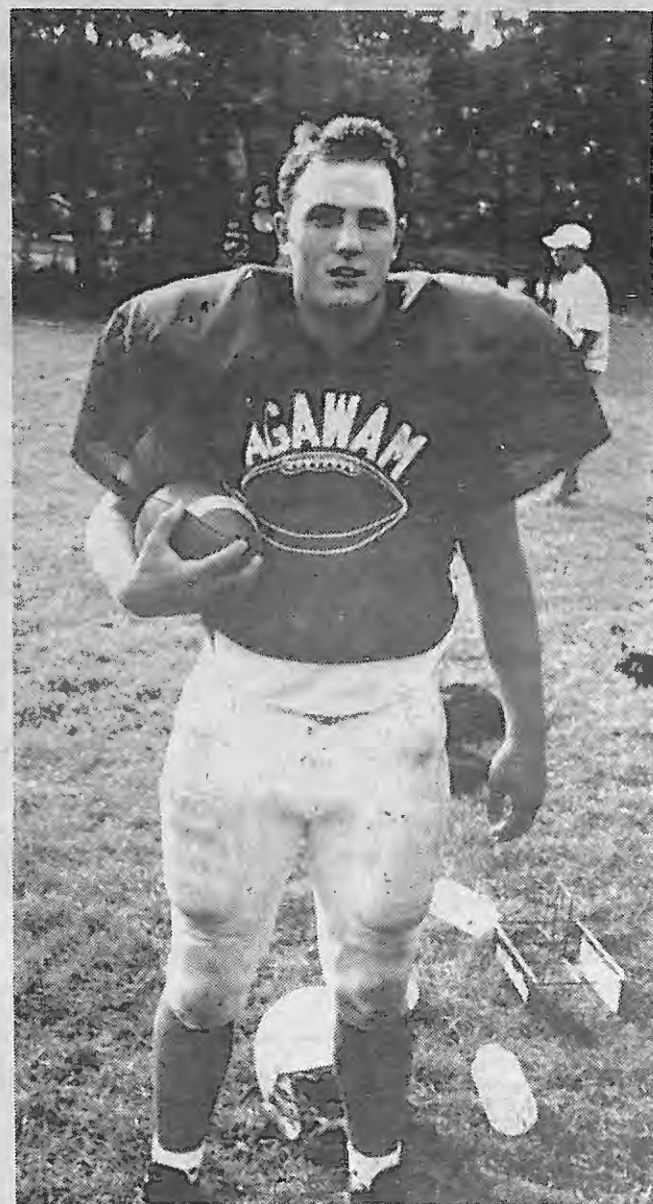
Receiving: Wing — 5-97, one TD; Pedraza — 4-43; Melbourne — 3-23; Gallagher — 2-22.

Return Yards (Kickoff): Wing — 3-44, Lng 23; Gallagher — 1-20.

Return Yards (Punts): Andy St. Jean — 1-5; Wing — 1-5.

Punting: Brian St. Jean — 3-108, avg. 36.0, Lng 45.

Sacks: Gallagher — one; Malachowski — one.



**JUNIOR RUNNING BACK Brian Gallagher** rushed for 65 yards and caught two passes in Agawam High's season-opening loss to the Northampton Blue Devils last Friday night.

Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

## AHS Golfers Back On Stride After Streak Snapped

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Because of a schedule change, the Agawam High boys' golf team didn't host Amherst Tuesday afternoon at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. They did play Monday afternoon, beating Minnechaug at the Hampden Country Club, 10½-7½, to run their record to 6-1 and 2-1 in the Valley Wheel.

It was a satisfying win for the Brownies, who saw their 30-match Valley Wheel win streak (along with a 24-straight overall win streak) stopped last Friday by Longmeadow.

Junior Chris Rousseau, last year's surprising Western Mass champion, lost his match at number one, 43-40, giving up three points. Brownie Golf Coach Paul Bachini noted that Rousseau just doesn't do well at that golf course. It was his first loss this year and the first time as a varsity player he's ever been swept.

Kyle Gendron, at number two, shot a 41, taking two points. His gut check was on the ninth hole with the match all even. The junior sank a 45-foot downhill twister for a birdie and the match. "It could just as easily have been a bogey," Bachini admitted. "But Kyle was up to the challenge," he added.

Shawn Biebel won his match at number three, with a 44 and two points.

Nick Bellefleur, playing in the number four spot, shot a 44 to take a point. The seventh and eighth holes gave him trouble. He was leading until he triple bogeyed both of them.

The match really came down to the play of the fifth and sixth kids. Agawam (after the first four were in) trailed, 7-5. However, senior Bob Bousquet (at number five) won his match with a 48 to grab 2½ points. Newcomer Jon Couture, a senior, shot a 43 to win three points.

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## High-Powered Pacers Invade AHS Football On Friday Evening

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

This Friday, the Agawam High football team will host Chicopee at 7:00 p.m. Last year, the Pacers trimmed the Brownies at Szot Park, 54-20. It was one of Agawam's worst games of the season. The Pacers are loaded again this time around, with a double dose of trouble back at the controls — All-Western Mass performers John Cloutier (senior fullback) and Tim Klett (senior quarterback).

"They'll run out of the triple option like they did last season," Brownie Coach Dean Vecchiarelli observed. "We're going to have to step up on defense or we'll be in trouble. I think we can do that." Then he added, "One thing about an option offense: everyone knows what they'll do. The challenge is to stop it."

Last week that offense whipped up on the Minnechaug defense to the tune of 25-19, rolling up 290 total yards. Klett had 126 yards and two scores on 21 carries. Cloutier lugged the bacon 29 times for 155 yards.

Vec noted that the Brownie offense will do what they do best — run the ball, with Brian Gallagher doing the bulk of the work. "We'll pass if we have to. But the key will be who controls the offensive and defensive lines," he added.

Vec noted that his club is a little bigger than the Pacers. He also said Chicopee has speed at the slot positions. "They're fast, but they won't throw



**ADDRESSING THE TROOPS:** Agawam High football Coach Dean Vecchiarelli gets his Brownies prepared for the Chicopee Pacers on Friday, September 19th. Looking on are Assistant Coaches Dan Pryce and Curt Boyle. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

the ball unless it's absolutely necessary." That could mean a land war.

Agawam goes into the game with everyone healthy. After its 19-6 loss against Northampton in

the season opener, Agawam (which got better as that game went along) is hoping the trend will continue. With the faithful behind them, they are hoping for a win and payback for last season.

## AHS Girls' Soccer Give Good Showing Despite 3-2 Loss To Strong Ludlow Lions

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

A week ago last Thursday, the Agawam High girls' soccer team entertained Ludlow and lost, 3-2. Both teams played nearly even-up soccer for much of the first half. Some good defensive work by Sheri Benton, Jill DeMarco, Julie Laflamme, and Vanessa Galluzzo helped keep the Lions at bay. On offense, Amanda Tilden was flying from the left wing. By the 9:11 mark, however, Ludlow was starting to get some quality time in the Brownie zone. At 7:47, they scored to make it 1-0, which stood until halftime.

At 30:32 of the second half, Ludlow scored again to go up 2-0. Brownie keeper Jen Quigley got a finger on that ball. But it was just too high for her to deal with as it went in top center. A minute later, the Lions got their third goal and it all seemed to be slipping away from the gritty, but up until that point, outplayed Brownies.

Less than a minute after that misfortunate, Kristen Patterson passed the ball to Amy Mastroianni on the left wing. Amy lofted a soft shot from 40 feet out that floated over the Ludlow

keeper's head and into the back of the net.

### Locals Shift Gears

Ludlow, now up 3-1, had to suck it up on defense, because Agawam shifted gears, no doubt pumped up by the goal. Several Brownies had point-blank shots stopped or watched the ball slide by the post. Still trailing 3-1, AHS had a free kick with just over a minute left. Patterson took it and drilled it home to make it 3-2. But unlike the song, time was not on the Brownies' side. The 3-2 loss evened their record at 1-1 after two games.

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# Patterson Tricks Holyoke; AHS Wins Big At 6-1

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' soccer team did a pretty good rendition of the "Anvil Chorus" on Monday afternoon at Harmon Smith Field, stomping Holyoke, 6-1. It was fitting.

They'd just come off a tough, 3-2 loss to Ludlow and needed the wake-up call. "I'm happy with this one," Brownie Coach Mary Murray smiled. "I keep telling them they have to put people away. They did that today."

The Brownies went on the attack from the get-go. They spent the first five minutes of the game in the Holyoke zone, during which they got off three hard and true shots on net. The big shooter was senior midfielder Amy Mastroianni, who was flying for the entire game. At 19:48, she had a corner kick from the right side. The ball spun in. Gina Loudfoot tracked it down and hit Kristen Patterson with a short pass. Patterson drove it home for the first goal of her three goals in this game.

A minute and 20 seconds later, Mastroianni found herself in another corner kick situation, again from the right side. This time she got the unassisted goal as the ball did a duck hook right into the Purple Knight net, putting Agawam up, 2-0.

It was looking like a hopeless task for Holyoke. Every now and then they'd mount an offense, only to be turned back by defenders Kara Tierney, Sheri Benton, Katie Shannon, and Julie Laflamme. The only real Purple Knight threat came with 2:15 left. They rushed on the right side and got off a good shot on net. Keeper Jen Quigley, however, was right on top of it.

The half ended, 2-0, Brownies. Agawam had 10 shots on net. Holyoke could manage only three.

## AHS Puts Holyoke Away In Second Half

The second half was what Murray meant about putting a team away. At 35:23, junior Barbara Maloni hit Patterson with a pass in front of the Holyoke net, just outside the penalty area. Patterson hit the back of the net to make it 3-0, Agawam.

The Purple Knights were still staggering from that quick-hitter when Agawam produced another. Mastroianni dropped a pass to Maloni at 35:05. Maloni put the ball in for her first goal of the season and Agawam's fourth of the game. Mastroianni got the assist. Agawam was now up, 4-0.

Holyoke broke the shutout with a score at 22:10. But it was obvious by then that they didn't have the horses to keep up with the furious Agawam attack and an equally vigorous Brownie defense.

Mastroianni got her second goal of the game at 15:01 off a nice feed from Amanda Tilden to make it 5-1, Agawam. The Knights were walking on their heels by then. Whenever they did get off a shot (which was rare), Quigley managed to come up with a timely save.

There were 15 seconds left in the game when Patterson (showing why she is one of the best, if not the best, girls' soccer players in Western Mass) scored her third goal of the game. She got the ball in the short zone, dribbled it 15 yards, splitting the defense, and shot from 15 feet in front. The ball nestled into the left corner of the Holyoke net. It was her third goal of the game. Tilden got the assist.

Agawam had six shots on goal in the second half for a game total of 16. Holyoke had four for a total of seven.

It was a big day for Patterson. Her three goals and one assist give her a total of five goals and three assists after four games. Last year, in 17 outings, she had 11 goals and five assists.

"That's what happens when you have other kids who can put the ball in the net," Murray smiled. "No team can concentrate on just one person the way they did last year."

Mastroianni had two goals and two assists in the game. Her four-game total stands at four goals and two assists. Others have also stepped up, if not to score, at least to make their offensive presence known.

At this writing, the Brownies are 2-1.

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# Santaniello's Late Tally Stuns Lancers, Gives AHS Boys 1-1 Tie

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

The Agawam High boys' soccer team brought the term, "It ain't over 'til it's over" to new heights a week ago last Wednesday. They hosted Longmeadow, which, like the Brownies, has legitimate playoff aspirations. The game ended in a belly-flopping 1-1 tie.

For most of the first half, the Lancers brought the play to Agawam. Only several super saves by keeper Bryan O'Quinn and some gut check defense by the likes of Jay Flood, Rich Rodriguez, Dave Thomas, and Dave Federico kept the game scoreless at the break.

The second half saw more Lancer pressure. It finally paid off with 16 minutes gone. Longmeadow forward Sean Kane split the Brownie defense and bore down on O'Quinn, who had to come out of his net to cut off the angle. Kane put the ball into the low left-hand corner from 20 yards out for a 1-0 Lancer lead.

## White Knuckle Time

The score stayed that way until white knuckle time, which can be defined as almost nothing left on the clock and you need to come up with a score fast.

While the faithful held their collective breath, O'Quinn came out of his goal, trotted upfield, and positioned himself on the far sideline. There were 40 ticks left in the game. O'Quinn, most observers don't realize, is also a pretty good field player along with being a very good goalkeeper.

The senior reared back and with a mighty grunt, heaved the ball 30 yards into what would have passed for a rugby scrum in front of the Lancer net. The ball rattled around among a tangle of lashing legs and flailing feet, finally popping into the Longmeadow goal with 15 seconds left. The scorer was junior Umberto Santaniello (the first of his varsity career). The assist went to Joe DiVirgilio.

Both teams went ballistic—Agawam because it tied the game, Longmeadow because it had allowed this to happen. Brownie Coach Dwight Northrup would say later with a sly smile, "Yeah, we have that play in our playbook."

At that point, the Brownies' record rose to 2-0-1.

Their next foe would be Central last Friday.

\*\*\*\*\*

After their heady, 1-1 tie against Longmeadow, the Brownies came back to reality on Friday afternoon against Central, losing 4-2.

Early on, though, the Brownie booters looked to be still on the high they'd experienced after spiking the Lancers. They scored fast. With less than two minutes gone junior Brian Machos took a crossing pass from freshman Joe Divirgilio and slid it into the back of the Central net for a 1-0 lead.

After that, however, perhaps the Brownies' adrenaline began to wane, because the Golden Eagles began to dominate. They tied the game at the 14:33 mark. Eight minutes later, they took a 2-1 lead. The half ended that way.

From the opening horn to the 29 minute mark of the second half, Central continued its dominance. Agawam could only manage a minute or so in the Eagle zone before being driven back on defense, where Dave Thomas, Divirgilio, Jay Flood, and Rich Rodriguez were hard pressed to figure out how to clip the Eagles' wings.

The offense figured they needed to bring something to the table again and did at 12:17. Jay Murphy threw the ball into a melee in front of the Central net. Peter Bitzas, one of the better header guys on the team, did just that, banging it home for Agawam's second score of the game.

The Brownies, however, couldn't stand the prosperity, giving up a Central goal on a corner at 8:31 to go down 3-2.

At 2:11, Agawam brought keeper Bryan O'Quinn up to try the game-tying throw in a deal he'd executed against Longmeadow. It backfired. With the defense caught upfield, unmarked Eagle Shawn Monette took an outlet pass and blasted a long shot at an empty Agawam net to cap the win. O'Quinn admitted that the team has been battling a cold. He also noted that they sat on their early lead a little too much, rather than getting aggressive. "Central is also one of the top two or three teams in Western Mass.," he pointed out.

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# Big 2nd Half Lifts West Side Past AHS Booters, 3-1

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

Tuesday night at Clark Field in West Springfield was both nice and nuts. Nice, because the field, which sits high on a bluff, afforded a good view of Springfield, shimmering in the setting sun while the dark orange full moon rose out of the eastern horizon through a bank of low clouds.

Nuts, because it was junior youth soccer night, which meant hundreds of screaming munchkins (proudly wearing the livery of their respective teams) cavorted through the stands and repeatedly rushed the refreshment stand.

Nuts under a full moon adequately describes Terrier territory, as the Agawam High boys' soccer team found out (not that they didn't already know it). A 3-1 loss just reinforced the concept. The Brownies came in at 2-1-1. West Side showed up at 3-0. Everything was in place for yet another page in the long and storied rivalry between the two towns, no matter what the venue.

West Springfield started out strong. They spent the three opening minutes in the Brownie zone. Agawam took advantage of that aggressiveness, catching the Terrier defense too far upfield. They punched the ball out of their zone and broke down the left side. Barry Ward hit Jay Murphy with a lead pass and the junior launched one from 50 feet out, scoring into the right-hand corner of the West Side net at 37:21. Just like that, it was 1-0, Agawam.

Just like that, the Terriers came back. Junior midfielder Kevin McMenamin led his troops down the field on the fly. From 40 yards out, he lit the fuse on a missile that kept rising like a Tiger Woods tee shot, over keeper Bryan O'Quinn and into the top of the goal. The time of the goal — 37:11. Indeed, it was just like that.

Then the two teams settled down into a game that was about as even as it gets. They traded rushes into each other's zone, with both getting their chances. Ward had a great chance at 32:09. His dead-on shot from 15 yards out on the left side was met with an acrobatic save by West Side keeper Chris Atkins. Seven minutes later, O'Quinn was tested, coming up with a save on a dead-on shot from 20 feet away.

It was still anyone's game at the 23:00 mark. The offense, led by Ward, Joe DiVirgilio, and Umberto Santaniello, went on the attack. West Side came right back. But the Brownies' defense, anchored by Jack Bisco, Jay Flood, and Ryan Grealis, turned them back.

The half ended as even as it could possibly be, 1-1. Even the shots on goal (three for each team) showed how tight it was.

The Terriers came out hot in the second half, much as they did in the first. The Brownie defense was up to the task.

## Something Was Happening...

Something was happening, however. The West Springfield seemed to be stepping up their game a notch or two. That fact was driven home by two Terrier drives midway through the half. Each attack produced a shot that tested O'Quinn and showed why he's an All-Western Mass keeper. At 25:32, he dove and stopped a point-blank shot from the left wing. A little more than a minute later, he did the same thing on the right side.

At 19:22, however, West Side scored off a corner kick from the right side. The ball was only 10 feet out when Tom Moran hit it home. Bryan had no chance. West Side led, 2-1.

West Side was beginning to get a confidence injection now. They were spending quality time in the Brownie zone, testing the Agawam defenders. When the Brownies did break out, they couldn't sustain an attack. They were also without one of their main players. Junior midfielder Dave Thomas went down at 17:31 and had to leave the game with badly bruised ribs.

Time was quickly fleeing. At 2:20, the Brownies had what perhaps was their last best chance to turn the tide in their favor. Jay Flood threw the ball in from midfield. It was a good effort that ended up 20 feet out and still airborne in front of the West Side net. Murphy tracked it all the way and got off a serious header. It sailed a foot wide to the left. If it's on, it's in. That last gasp might have taken the fight out of the Brownies. At 1:08, the Terriers scored again to get the 3-1, win.

Brownie Coach Dwight Northrup noted, "A lack of experience and discipline hurt us in the end."

Agawam had two shots on net in the second half for a game total of five. West Springfield managed seven for a game total of 10. The Brownies' record now stands at 2-2-1.

BROWNIE STATS: Murphy — one goal; Ward — one assist.

# AHS JV & Frosh Round-Up

by Dave Rollins  
Sports Editor

## JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL

The Agawam JV football team entertained the Northampton JV's Monday afternoon at Phelps School, coming away with a 16-14, season-opening victory.

The young Brownies got on the board first. It happened at 6:23 of the first quarter, on a dive play to fullback Mike O'Connor at the 'Hamp 32-yard line.

A dive isn't necessarily designed to go all the way, but this one did. Agawam went up 8-0 on a Jason Daigneau run for the two-point conversion.

Northampton got their first score in the second half on a fumble recovery. The conversion went nowhere. Agawam led 8-6 at the half.

The young Brownies hit it big early in the third quarter on a 50-yard TD bomb from quarterback Daigneau to wideout Scott Harlin. Dave Moore ran for the two-point conversion to give Agawam a 16-6 lead.

'Hamp got its final score when it recovered a bad snap on a punt in the Brownie end zone. The conversion made it 16-14, Agawam. In the fourth quarter, the young Brownies' defense stiffened up and preserved the win.

JV Coach Dan Pryce singled out O'Connor and Daigneau as his offensive stars. Defensive end Eric Pedersen, along with the whole defensive line, got the nod for their work on the other side of the ball.

"This is the first time in five straight years of opening-day games against Northampton that the JV's have come away with a win," Pryce noted.

## JUNIOR VARSITY & FRESHMAN BOYS' SOCCER

The Agawam JV boys' soccer team had mixed results in their first two games of the season.

They opened with a 2-1 win over Amherst. Scoring for the young Brownies were Brian Lopes and Dave Gallerani. The team met Monson on Monday evening and suffered its first loss of the season, 3-2. In that game, Lopes had the two Brownie scores.

The freshmen started out on the right foot with a 4-0 win over Amherst last week.

In underclassmen action Tuesday, the JV boys beat the Terriers, 1-0. Brian Lopes got the goal midway through the first half. He was assisted by Tim Faust. The JV boys' record now stands at 4-1.

The freshmen weren't so fortunate, falling 1-0 to the Terriers at AHS, breaking a three-game win streak and running their record to 3-1.

## JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS' SOCCER

The girls' JV soccer team had more luck against Ludlow last Thursday. They came away with a 1-0 victory.

It was scoreless at halftime. Then, 15 minutes into the second half, Agawam scored the only goal of the game. It came off a corner kick by Kornelia Moysis. Kerry McGeoghan tracked the ball down in front of the net and drove it home.

Agawam outshot and outthrust the visiting Lions. Coach Lynda Kunasek noted that opening their season against always-tough Ludlow was a challenge, but her kids stepped up and accepted it.

# Agawam Soccer Assoc. Standings

(As Of September 14, 1997)

UNDER 10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Gold	5	0	0	10
Maloney's Navy Blue	3	1	1	7
Brewster's Maroon	2	1	1	5
Gould's Orange	2	3	0	4
Pfau's Royal Blue	1	1	1	3
Klimczak's Red	0	3	1	1
Wood's Green	0	4	0	0

UNDER 12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Patrick's Blue Sonic	3	1	0	6
Adams' Blue Lightning	2	1	1	5
Francis' Orange	2	1	1	5
Zmaczynski's Big Green	2	1	1	5
Rollins' Red Hot Peppers	1	1	2	4

Chiclana's Golden Eagles	1	2	1	3
Morace's Maroon	0	0	4	0

UNDER 14 COED	W	L	T	P
Southwick	3	0	0	6
Heneghan's Red	3	1	0	6
Fournier's Royal Blue	3	2	0	6
Spear's Green	1	3	0	2
Hamre's Orange	0	1	1	1
Fleming's Blue Vikings	0	2	1	1

UNDER 17 COED	W	L	T	P
Kelly's Navy Blue	2	0	0	4
Cincotta's Big Green II	1	1	0	2
Gaffney's Red	1	1	0	2
Fleming's Orange	0	2	0	0

# 1997 Fall Soccer, In-Town Boys

(As Of September 14, 1997)

U12 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Lyman	2	0	0	4
Ferreira's Knights	1	0	2	4
Harlow's Fighting Irish	1	0	2	4
Martin's Gold Lightning	1	1	1	3
Myers' Red Storm	0	2	1	1
Moysis' Strikers	0	2	0	0

U10 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Nawskon's Lightning	3	0	1	7
Gonyeau's Red Dogs	2	1	1	5
Foley's Green Machine	2	1	0	4
Mokrzycki's Golden Warriors	2	1	0	4
Sabola's Minutemen	1	2	0	2
Skolnick's Men In Black	0	3	1	1
Holmes' Blue Bombers	0	2	1	1

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The Springfield stop is presented nationally by NIKE, Gatorade, Sports Specialties, Foot Locker, Nestle's Baby Ruth, Spalding, and the United State Marine Corps. The regional sponsor is Oreo, and local sponsors are WWLP-TV, SportsChannel, and WHYN-AM and -FM.

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Since its inception, Hoop-It-Up® has generated more than \$4 million in contributions nationwide to non-profit organizations.



# Agawam Parks And Recreation Department's 1997 Fall Programs

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration information is listed separately in the following program descriptions. After the initial registration dates, registration will be accepted in the Recreation Office, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Registration for all recreation programs is limited and is offered on a first come, first served basis. Registration will not be accepted before the initial registration dates, and phone registrations will not be accepted.

All fees are required at the time of registration, and checks should be made payable to the Town of Agawam. A parent's or legal guardian's signature is required for all children's programs.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department Office is located at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street (right driveway, rear entrance). Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The telephone number is 821-0514.

Cancellations and postponements will be announced on the recreation department recording, 821-0514. The department reserves the right to set a maximum for each class and to cancel any class due to insufficient registration.

No unregistered person may attend classes at any time. No baby-sitting is provided for any programs. Children must be of correct age before class begins.

## INSURANCE

The Town of Agawam does not carry insurance to cover hospitalization or medical costs for anyone injured while participating in or watching any of our Parks and Recreation programs. Please note — you enter our programs at your own risk.

The Town of Agawam Parks and Recreation Department is not responsible for any personal belongings which are lost, stolen, or damaged while participating in or watching any of our activities.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** "Fun," recreational program begins September 29th and runs for 10 weeks at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. Monday, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. - \$25.

**CO-ED VOLLEYBALL:** Competitive, recreational program begins September 29th and runs for 10 weeks at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL. Monday, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m. - \$25.

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE:** The league is now in progress. Games are held on Tuesday evenings at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL. Drop-ins are welcomed on Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Drop-in fee is \$2 per night.

**DROP-IN BASKETBALL:** Supervised drop-in basketball program for RESIDENTS ONLY begins October 20th at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL. Participants must be 18 years or older. Identification Cards, which are necessary for admittance to the program, can be picked up at the Recreation Office.

Monday, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. - \$2 per night.

**WALKING GROUP:** Anyone interested in walking for exercise is asked to contact the Recreation Office. The program will be coordinated by Officer Karen Langevin, and participants will meet weekly to walk in selected areas of town.

Registration for Women's and Co-Ed Volleyball will be accepted at the first night of the program at the Junior High School gym. Registration for Men's Drop-In Volleyball and Drop-In Basketball is not necessary. The drop-in fee is payable to the site supervisor per visit.

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

**PIRANHAS SWIM TEAM:** The Agawam Recreation Department sponsors a competitive swim team for children ages five to 18. The winter session begins September 30th at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL POOL. Registration is

now being accepted in the Agawam Recreation Office. For more information, call Steve Adamski at 789-2451.

**YOUTH BASKETBALL:** The Agawam Recreation Department sponsors the in-town basketball program for children in grades three to 12. Registration will be held on Thursday, October 9th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Junior High School Cafeteria. Any adult interested in coaching is asked to call the Recreation Office.

**INSTRUCTIONAL BASKETBALL:** Participants will learn the fundamentals of basketball. The program will meet at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL on Saturday mornings and is open to children in grades one and two or who will be six years-old as of January 1, 1998. Registration will be held on Thursday, October 9th, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Junior High School Cafeteria. Any adult interested in coaching is asked to call the Recreation Office.

**YOUTH WRESTLING:** Watch for detailed flyers at a later date.

**YOUTH LACROSSE:** Watch for detailed flyers at a later date.

**FALCONS NIGHT:** The Springfield Falcons will sponsor the Second Annual Pioneer Valley Group Recreational Night at the Nest on Opening Night, October 3rd, at 7:30 p.m. The 1997/98 defending Northern Champs will host their arch-rival, the Worcester Ice Cats. Discounted tickets go on sale Tuesday, September 23rd, in the Agawam Recreation Department.

**RECREATIONAL SWIM:** Public swim will be held at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL POOL beginning September 29th.

Monday, 7:00 to 8:45 p.m. - \$2 (six years and up) and \$1 (under six years).

Disposable diapers or floating devices are not allowed in the pool. Children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

*Although our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon, we appreciate any articles and ads that come in on Mondays.*

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# Varsity And JV Cheerleaders At Summer Camp

On Tuesday, August 26th through Friday, August 29th, the Agawam varsity and junior varsity cheerleaders attended Universal Cheerleaders Association annual summer camp in Brandt Lake, New York.

During the week, the teams are worked non-stop on skills, cheers, technique, stunts, and safety. Combined with their instruction throughout the day, the girls are evaluated by certified U.C.A. instructors, and given white, red, or blue ribbons depending upon their performance.

The first evaluation had our AHS varsity girls honored with the only blue ribbon of the evening out of 18 teams and they continued to receive a blue for every evaluation thereafter. The junior varsity girls received one red and three blues.

The last day of camp proved to be a very exciting and rewarding one as our varsity girls walked away with the Camp Champ award in the cheer division, and second place in sideline. The JV girls came home with Camp Champ in sideline second place in cheer. Also at this time, the seniors who wish to try out for UCA All Stars may do so.

This year, Kadie Barrington, Sheree Cardin, and Michelle Kowalewski chose to "Go for the Gold," and came away with All Star Medals, and hopefully a chance to march in the Lord of Westminster's New Year's Day Parade in London, England.

Coach Kim Hebert, who attends the UCA camp every year with her team, was given a very special award, "The Program Achievement Award," given rarely, and voted on unanimously by the camp counselors this award is given to a team that has shown the most growth and progress over the years.

Coach Hebert has been coaching at Agawam for the past four years and has worked diligently at making her teams into strong, talented athletes who not only cheer for AHS, but represent our town with dignity and pride. Her '97 team opened the doors to an elite new level of cheering, and the '98 team should blow them off their hinges. A special thanks to Coach Hebert for all your hard work, dedication, and the perseverance to make your dream a reality!

The '98 varsity team, led by senior co-captains Kristin Ferguson and Michelle Kowalewski, includes seniors Kadie Barrington, Sheree Cardin, and Lonnie DeLuca, juniors Ella Atkins, Michelle Beaudette and Michelle Heim, sophomores Kate Chmura and Lauren Piccin, and freshmen Jenna Bodurtha, Bianca Chase, Lauren DeLuca, Jessica Forni, Ashley Guiel, Rachel Lara, Ashlee Lorraine, and Aimee Piccin.

The '98 junior varsity team, coached by Melissa Almquist and led by senior captain Erin Ottomaniello, includes senior Jen Rendrick, juniors Diane Balicki, Cathy Dickinson, and Jen Sommer, and freshmen Candace Bouthiller, Heather Ferguson, Jamie Santos, Sarah Scafuri, and Annie Shibley.

Good luck, AHS cheerleaders!



**AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S** varsity cheerleaders: Kristin Ferguson, Michelle Kowalewski, Kadie Barrington, Sheree Cardin, Lonnie DeLuca, Ella Atkins, Michelle Beaudette, Michelle Heim, Kate Chmura, Lauren Piccin, Jenna Bodurtha, Bianca Chase, Lauren DeLuca, Jessica Forni, Ashley Guiel, Rachel Lara, Ashlee Lorraine, and Aimee Piccin.



**AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S** junior varsity cheerleaders: back row - Heather Ferguson, Jamie Santos, Candace Bouthiller, Anne Shibley, and Coach Melissa Almquist; front row - Cathy Dickinson, Jen Sommer, Erin Ottomaniello, Diane Balicki, and Jen Rendrick. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

\*\*\*  
Please remember that our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles and ads that are brought in on Mondays...  
\*\*\*



## Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by  
**Jim Modzelesky,**  
PGA  
Oak Ridge Golf Club,  
Feeding Hills, MA

## Too Much Reading Can Hurt

It's obviously important to figure out the line of a breaking putt, but too much reading can create more confusion than it resolves.

For instance, if you study a putt from behind the ball and then from behind the hole, you run the risk of sending mixed messages to your brain.

My rule has always been to study putts from behind the ball to judge the break, and then from the low side of the hole — the side toward which the ball will break — to see how much the putt is either uphill or downhill.

I figure that's about as much information as my brain can handle at one time — or needs to.

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# Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

## Under 9 Girls - "Twisters"

On Saturday, September 13th, the Agawam Twisters came away with a 6-0 victory against the Chicopee Ajac.

Megan Lalli scored the first goal of the game. Christina Bertrand scored the second goal, Stephanie Obue was responsible for the fourth and fifth goals, with Cassie Ashwell and Katlin Outhouse scoring fifth and sixth, respectively.

Fullbacks Natalie Honsingio and Brittany Mangiotta held tight on their positions.

On Sunday, September 14th, Agawam came away with a 4-0 win over Ludlow.

Megan Lalli scored the first goal of the game with a great assist by Katlin Outhouse. Christina Bertrand scored the second and third goals, followed by Stephanie Obue with the fourth.

Fullbacks Brittany Mangiotta and Amy Dulude again did a great job. The few shots on goal were saved by goalie Michelle Santos.

## U10 Girls - "Hot Shots"

This past Saturday brought the Hot Shots to the great game with Holy Cross that we had expected it to be. The first half of the game was a copy of the game with Wilbraham last week, with hard work from the offense and defense of both teams trying desperately to make that first goal. Some great defensive plays in the goals ended the first half at 0-0.

The second half brought more of the same, until about the 10:00 mark when Holy Cross finally got their first goal. It was a blast of a shot from about the 18-yard line which our goalie was able to get a hand on.

However, the deflection wasn't quite enough and it caught the inside upper corner goal post and rebounded down in the goal. With less than five minutes to go, Holy Cross was able to sneak the ball in for one more goal and the game ended in a 2-0 loss.

The Hot Shots' second game, held on Sunday, brought them together with Westfield. The tension in this game was very high right from the beginning until the final whistle.

We decided to try out a new goalie for this game. This would require our defense to be more on their toes to give our goalie a little more support. She made some great saves and was even subjected to a penalty shot. The penalty shot went wide of the goal and would leave her to be tested another time.

At the end of the first half, the score of 0-0. This is becoming a bad habit. We would like to see some other digits in our column at the half. But I guess it shows that both teams are being pretty competitive, which should make us work a little harder.

The second half brought more of the same, and the Hot Shots had a handful of shots at goal with nothing making it in. Then we received our first penalty shot. Our kicker had a nice shot to the goal but couldn't get it by the goalie's hands. The goalie fumbled the ball but obtained possession just before we could get a second strike on it.

Our kicker this time went for the opposite corner on the high side and was able to put the ball in the net, giving us our one and only goal to finish 1-0. This was a very well-deserved win for the Hot Shots. The team effort in this game was great.

Next Saturday brings us together with a team we have had some very friendly games with, the AJAC Angels. On Sunday, we play against the Ludlow Terrors. Both games should be exciting.

## U-13 Agawam Tigers

On Tuesday, September 9th at Smith & Wesson, the U-13 Agawam Tigers became the 55th straight Pioneer Valley Girls' Soccer League victim of the East Longmeadow Strikers. EL scored a goal in each half but unlike many past games between these two teams, the Tigers played stronger and more intense, limiting EL to fewer opportunities to buzz the Tigers net.

Goalie Vicky Taylor was again solid, and fullback Danielle Cirillo played a monster game. Also playing well for the Tigers were sweeper Melissa Savenko and fullbacks Tricia Fitchben and Sheri Laskowski.

On Saturday, September 13th, the Tigers faced rival West Side, the league's runners-up the past two seasons. West Side came into the game undefeated (3-0) and unscored on.

This was a memorable game played with great intensity and with a playoff-type atmosphere. West Side had the better of the play in the first half as goalie Sheri Laskowski made several good stops.

The second half, however, saw the Tigers turn the tide by virtue of aggressive play all over the

field. Midway through the half, halfback Nicole Gendreau sent a ball past the West Side fullback and in front of right wing Kaitlin Sardella, who was streaking in on goal. The keeper came out to cut the angle, but Kaitlin's shot from just inside the penalty area was on target for the 1-0 lead.

The rest of the game was up and down the field. Tigers fullbacks Tricia Fitchben, Danielle Cirillo, Vicky Taylor, and sweepers Melissa Savenko and Kaitlin Sardella were up to the challenge, as were halfbacks Jen Sharpe, Aimee Beaudette, Vicky Ruhl, Kate Horniak, and Nicole Gendreau. Center halfback Whitney Brown also performed well in the middle.

Good frontline pressure was applied by Meaghan Brown, Karen Prisby, Brittany Taylor, and Maureen Quinlan. The Tigers were 2-1-1 after the hardfought victory.

## Under 9 Boys - "Ball Hogs"

On Saturday, the Agawam Ball Hogs faced-off against Wilbraham, ending in a 1-1 tie. Ball Hogs' front linesman Chris Darnell scored in the first quarter to tie-up the game.

Goalie Jason Polek played an outstanding game by shutting-out Wilbraham through the entire second half. Solid defensive teamwork by Allan Murphy and Thomas Albano also contributed to holding back Wilbraham.

Key passing and controlled ball handling led the Ball Hogs to Sunday's 4-0 victory against Westfield.

The Ball Hogs took the lead early in the game with Carmino Bonavita scoring the first goal. Subsequent goals by Chris Wyman and Ryan Wytrych added to the total with an awesome assist by Anthony Costa for the fourth and final goal of the game.

Outstanding teamwork by Anthony DePalma, Sean Conway, Bryant Damours, Brandon Shuwalter, and Gregory Santos led the Ball Hogs to this much deserved win!

Ball Hogs Head Coach Tony DePalma and Assistant Coaches Faith Conway and Tony Albano were pleased with their team's performance this weekend, as they continue their undefeated record.

Next Saturday, the Ball Hogs will host Ludlow and visit Springfield on Sunday.

## Under 10 Boys' - "Cheetahs"

Tenacious defense and solid teamwork again provided for exciting soccer this weekend for the Cheetahs, an U-10 B team.

On Saturday, the Cheetahs met their arch rival from the spring season, the WS Bulldogs. The Bulldogs had a strong first half, scoring first.

A stronger second half by Agawam and a goal by Jeff Stanton gave the Cheetahs a 1-1 tie.

On Sunday, Agawam met Holy Cross. Both teams played tough with Holy Cross scoring early in the second half. Despite some threatening offense by the Cheetahs in the last few minutes, Holy Cross held on for the 1-0 win.

The Cheetahs' record stands at 2-1-1.

## Under 11 Boys - "Agawam Attack"

The defending champion Agawam Attack boys up their opened up their fall 1997 season at 2-1-1.

In their first game, goals by Andrew King and Joey Albano led the attack to a 2-1 victory over North Branch from Springfield.

Game two of the season was against the East Longmeadow Cobras, a powerhouse team who had just come off winning the Riverside Classic Boys' U-11 Championship, in convincing fashion by outscoring their opponents, 30-2.

The Attack fell behind 2-0 only seven minutes into the game, but battled back to earn a hard-fought 4-4 tie. Andrew King led the way with three goals.

Game three saw the Attack jump out to an early lead and never look back in a 3-1 win over the Amherst Lightning. Joey Albano scored all three of the Attack goals. Kevin Malloch, David Summers, Seamus Moran, and Scott Santinello all had strong games.

In game four, the Attack suffered their first loss of the season after leading at the half, 1-0. The Ludlow Lightning scored two goals in the last 15 minutes of the game to pull out a 2-1 victory.

Both the Ludlow keeper and the Attack's keeper, Kyle Perry, kept this game from being a high-scoring affair. Kevin Bienia and Michael Thompson also worked hard defending for the Attack. Coaches Fred Perry, Jimmy Moran, and Peter Sadowski will try to help the team get back on the winning track.

## Under 14 Boys - "Rockets"

The Agawam Rockets U-14 boys' PVJSL team continued their good team play as they recorded two victories in week two of the season.

The first, a 4-0 win over Ludlow, saw a balanced scoring attack with Adam Rovithis scoring two goals, and Nick DePalma and Mike Ruscio adding a goal each. Mike DeCaro, Rob Cullen, and Jamie DelPeschio took control of the midfield play and kept Ludlow bottled up in their end most of the day.

Game two of the week brought a much harder fought 1-0 win over Easthampton. Nick DePalma connected on the only goal needed on a deflection off a blast from Brian Knight.

Halfbacks Matt Ligenza, Vinny Outhouse, and Evan Machos were all over the field, stopping the Easthampton attack before it could start much of the day.

When the opponents were able to break through, the strong Agawam defense led by Tony Valenti, John Lynch, and anchored by Mike Carmody kept the attackers far from the Agawam goal.

## CORRECTION...

*The Agawam Cobras were the winners of the Riverside Soccer Classic's girls U-11 division and the Agawam Lightning placed third in the U-12 girls' division. The editor/publisher of THE AAN is still having difficulty with the fact that his oldest child is now a U-13 player and the staff promises to stay on top of this for the rest of the season until it finally sinks in.*

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**MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON** presented citations to the Agawam athletes who participated in the Massachusetts State Hershey Track and Field Meet, which was held at Braintree High School on Friday, July 18th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

## Results From The State Hershey Track And Field Meet

Almost 700 competitors, ages nine to 14, competed in the Massachusetts State Hershey Track and Field Meet held at Braintree High School in Braintree, MA, on Friday, July 18, 1997.

Agawam Parks and Recreation Department sent seven athletes from their local qualifying meet held at the Agawam High School track on Sunday, June 22, 1997 to the state meet. The top 16 athletes with the best marks or times in each event from across the state qualified for the state final.

Two of the seven athletes were unable to compete at the state finals. **Danielle Cirillo** qualified in the girls' 11-12 200 Meter Dash, and **Nick Gumlaw** qualified in the boys' 11-12 Softball Throw.

The five athletes who competed at the meet all finished in the top 10 in their event. They each received a ribbon or ribbons and a certificate for their performance, as well as a t-shirt which they wore at the meet.

**Ed Waller** was the first to compete in the boys' 9-10 Standing Long Jump. Ed placed seventh with a jump of five feet, 8.5 inches.

**Elizabeth Barker** placed sixth in the girls' 9-10 50 Meter Dash with a time of 8.29 seconds. Elizabeth had the best place finish of the Agawam athletes in her second event, the girls' 9-10 Standing Long Jump with a jump of five feet, 10.25 inches to place third.

**Peter Midura** qualified in both the boys' 11-12 200 Meter Dash and the boys' 11-12 800 Meter Run. Peter placed seventh in the 200 Meters with a time of 31.68 seconds, and sixth in the 800 Meter Run with a time of 2:45.43.

**Ashley Aceto** ran in the girls' 9-10 400 Meter Dash and finished 10th with a time of 1:29.07.

**Elizabeth Clark** competed in the girls' 13-14 Standing Long Jump and finished fifth with a jump of six feet, 11 inches.

Congratulations to all the athletes. A special thank you to Dan Pryce for running the youth track program this spring, and to Rich and June Clark for chaperoning the athletes to the state meet in Braintree.

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**BACK ROW:** Mayor Johnson and Mary Keller, director of the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department. **FRONT ROW:** Elizabeth Barker, Edward Waller, Ashley Aceto, and Peter Midura. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



## Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis  
Outdoor Writer

### During My Trip To Watch Hill Reef...

A recent trip to the Watch Hill reef aboard the *Caroline Ann* with skipper Jim Evans of Agawam proved successful, with several stripers and a jumbo bluefish landed.

The rips that set up at Watch Hill, Lords Pass, the Race, and the area around Montauk Point are all likely prospects for some jumbo-sized stripers.

Trolling parachute jigs on wire while working the rod in a snapping motion has proved to be a deadly tactic.

For those who seek a less strenuous form of fishing, anchoring just up tide from the rip and sending down chunk bait such as cut bunker, mackerel, or herring often proves productive.

A recent jumbo linesider weighing 63 pounds was caught in the Watch Hill area by using this tactic.

For boaters who are not familiar with the area, a good navigational map and depth finder are absolutely essential.

The various reefs have been the demise of more than a few boats which have run aground and foundered in heavy seas.

When chunking or casting plugs into the rips, be prepared to change the anchoring position after the tide changes direction. Always make sure that you are drifting your baits into the face of the rip.

### FISH REPORTS FRESH WATER

Night fishing for largemouth has been good at Congamond Lake in Southwick. Now that the boat traffic has started to subside, better daytime fishing should follow.

Try noisy surface plugs such as Jitterbugs, Hula Poppers, Crazy Crawlers—and others like them. Daytime efforts should be in deeper water adjacent to weed lines. Plastic worms, jigs, and slab spoons should be fished slowly.

The fall stocking of trout should keep anglers busy in local waters.

Connecticut River smallmouth are hitting well. Try edges next to the main creek channel.

### SALT WATER

Bass and blues are bulking up for the fall migration to warmer climates. Areas around Montauk Rips, the Race, Plumb Gut, and the Watch Hill reefs are all producing some nice fish.

Captain Bill Brown of Billfish Charters reported losing a mako shark at the side of the boat on Saturday. Bill estimated the mako to be close to 400 pounds.

Surf fishermen are scoring on bass, blues, and bonito along the breachways in Rhode Island. First light has been the best time for the bonito to show up. Fly rod anglers are having a ball.

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## Modified Champion Ted Riggott Wins Last Regular Race Of 1997

Ted Riggott provided an encore performance last Saturday night, September 13th, at Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam on the final night of regular racing for the 1997 season.

Just one week after clinching his first track championship in Riverside's NASCAR Winston Racing Series Tour-Type Modified division, Riggott of East Hartland, CT, held off the determined efforts of Reggie Ruggiero to capture the 50-lap feature.

Also taking down victories on the evening were Tom Fearn of Agawam in the non-stop, 40-lap Pro Stock feature; Chuck Docherty in the 25-lapper for the Late Models; Tony Keilty of Torrington, CT, in the 25-lap Strictly Stock feature; and Jay Palmer of Berlin, CT, and Byron Chew of East Hampton, NY, in the two 25-lap features for the New England Legends Cars.

It was Riggott's sixth feature win of the season, two more than he'd won in his entire career at Riverside.

"We've had a great season and this was the perfect way to end it," said Riggott, who finished with 1,030 points to Tom Jensen's 996. "I knew that the Reg was coming and my car had loosened up an awful lot. I was only hoping that he'd used up his tires and didn't have much left for me. I was wrong."

Ruggiero had taken the NASCAR Featherlite Modified Tour race at New Hampshire International Speedway in Loudon, NH, earlier in the day, and then he had to hustle back to Riverside. Starting in the rear of the 21-car field, Ruggiero had his work cut out for him.

Riggott grabbed the lead on lap 10, driving past the previous week's feature-event winner, Dave Berube. Richie Gallup, Eddy Spiers, Renee Dupuis, and Rob Summers took up the chase.

By lap 22, Ruggiero was still seventh. Then he began to move. By lap 30, he overtook Dupuis for second by deftly using the bottom of the racetrack.

Four laps later, he went into second, slipping by Gallup. He caught up to Riggott by lap 40.

"We needed a few more cautions and more tires," Ruggiero explained afterwards. "We burned them up pretty bad catching up to Teddy."

Following the pair across the line was Gallup, Dupuis, and Summers to close out the top five.

Fearn started fourth in the Pro Stock feature, which went the distance without a caution.

"That was a blessing for us because we were able to conserve a little more on the car," he said. "Tonight, the handicap system played to our advantage."

By running a consistent race and finishing eighth, Eddy Carroll wrapped up his second consecutive points title. He was one position behind his nearest competitor in the chase, Barry Gray. The final standings had Carroll with 1,000 points and Gray with 988.

"It's pretty special to win back-to-back titles because it doesn't happen that often," said Carroll. "We had a great August (he won two features during the month) and a good September, and that carried us."

Fearn finished ahead of Jim Mavlouganes, Rich Vasseur, Patrick Townsend, and John Lobo.

Docherty captured the last-ever Late Model race at Riverside, as a Pro Truck Series will replace the division in 1998.

He got by both Rob Valerio and Roy Houle on a lap 22 restart for the victory, his fifth of the year.

"When I saw them touch on the restart in turn two, I said to myself, 'This is your shot, stick it in there and go.'"

Docherty's car was hooked up on the outside all race long. Houle took second, with Skip Breunig taking third, followed by Ted Chalmers and Rob Valerio.

Wayne Coury wrapped up the track title by placing sixth and capturing the crown, 970-956, over Chalmers.

"My strategy tonight wasn't any different than it's been all year," Coury said. "I just got in the car and drove it. I figured if I could stay in the top 10, I'd win the championship no matter what happened to Teddy."

Keilty's Strictly Stock win was his second on the season and he drove into the lead on lap 12, getting past Rosi Hall.

"We've struggled a lot this year, so it's been a tough year," Keilty said. "Getting two wins this late in the year really helps."

Ed Charette, George Colton, Hall, and Glen Reilly rounded out the top five in the race.

Four drivers received awards during the night's intermission. Honors for Most Popular Driver, which were awarded by Program Dynamics publisher Steve Barrick, went to Renee Dupuis (Modifieds), Patrick Townsend (Pro Stocks), Tom Dileo (Late Models), and to Kris Valerio (Strictly Stocks).



RECEIVING PRIZES AT THE recent West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry Golf Tournament were, from left - Jim Burdell, gas grill; Jim Karalekas, pro set of Spaulding irons; and Norm Dube, trip to Florida.

## West Springfield/Ag. Open Pantry Benefits From Golf Tournament

This year's Open Pantry Golf Benefit surpassed its goal of \$7,000 when a check for \$7,450 was turned over to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry. Even though the original golf date was rained out, close to 50 players showed up for the rain date.

Some of the winners were Russ Foley and his group of Mike Nigro, Dave Kenny, and Rich Petrucci, who took top prize in their division.

Dave Kenny also won the drawing for a weekend getaway. Other drawing winners were Norm Dube, who won the trip to Florida; Jim Karalekas, who won a pro set of Spaulding irons; and Jim Burdell, who won the gas grill. These players gave of their time and money to help the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

Besides offering meals for the homeless and shut-ins, the Open Pantry also has one of the few advocate programs in the state. It reaches out to single-parent families and helps them get back on their feet and into the mainstream. This takes peo-

ple off the welfare rolls and makes them tax-paying citizens. Three cheers for the Pantry!

The Pantry welcomes volunteers and interested people. Call 734-7969 for information on how the Pantry works and is funded. The Pantry relies for most of its funds from donations.

The Golf Benefit is the largest fundraiser for the Pantry and welcomes anyone who would like to help in next year's Golf Benefit. Call the Open Pantry at 734-7969 for more information. As the Good Book says, what you do for the least of my brethren, you do for me.

The committee for the Golf Benefit would like to thank all of its sponsors, especially its "Gold" sponsors — American Saw, Bay State Gas, Berkshire Plastics, Spaulding, John J. Dowd & Sons, Inc., Sullivan Paper, West Springfield Lions Club, West Springfield Rotary, Westfield Savings Bank, Vacation Resorts, Inc., and WMAS AM/FM (for its great coverage).

## Riverside's Final Point Standings

MODIFIEDS			LATE MODELS		
Ted Riggott	1,030	Wayne Coury	970		
Tom Jensen	896	Chuck Docherty	956		
Renee Dupuis	892	Ted Chalmers	954		
Richie Gallup	888	Bobby Emark	922		
Dave Berube	874	Ken Marques	892		
Eddy Spiers	786	Skip Breunig	890		
Rob Summers	738	E.J. Legacy	862		
Eric LeClair	676	Tom Dileo	840		
Joe Czarnecki	668	Ernie Tarca	816		
Billy Bolton	630	Roy Houle	812		
PRO STOCKS			STRICTLY STOCKS		
Eddy Carroll	1,000	Mike Salmond	914		
Barry Gray	988	Kris Valerio	860		
Jeff Connors	922	Joe Kokoszka	844		
Jim Mavlouganes	880	Ed Charette	828		
John Lobo	862	Glen Reilly	828		
Jeff Horn	838	Patrick Kretschman	804		
Willie Hardie	830	Dennis Charette	782		
Tom Fearn	790	Bill Reiman	718		
Patrick Townsend	770	Scott Neleber	708		
Jim Banfield	738	Rosi Hall	696		

## Lazaro Golf Classic At Oak Ridge Planned For October 8th

The fourth annual Joe Lazaro Classic Golf Tournament is set to tee off with a shotgun start at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 8th, at Oak Ridge Golf Club, Feeding Hills. Proceeds will benefit the Springfield region of the Massachusetts Association for the Blind.

To request an information package and registration form, contact Corinne Healy, 77 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105, (413) 734-7343.

**JACK DEVINE needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Call Jack at 789-0053. Thanks.**



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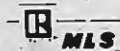
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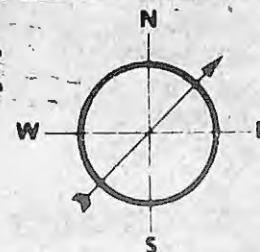
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